



## Hatfield Heath Primary School

Hatfield Heath • Bishop's Stortford • Hertfordshire • CM22 7EA

Telephone: 01279 730382 • Facsimile: 01279 739023

Email: [admin@hatfieldheath.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hatfieldheath.essex.sch.uk) • Website: [www.hatfieldheath.essex.sch.uk](http://www.hatfieldheath.essex.sch.uk)

*Head teacher: J H Clements MA*

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you all had a lovely Easter break and are ready for the final term of Year 3! We will be continuing this term with our topic 'Climates of the World', followed by 'Let's go local!' If anyone has some local historical or geographical knowledge about Hatfield Heath, we would love for you to share this in class with us.

In English, the children will be creating poems and writing reports linked to our 'Climates of the World' topics. We will also be reading the book 'Fantastic Mr Fox' by Roald Dahl and visiting the Roald Dahl museum to inspire some fabulous creative writing ideas including stories, letters and diary entries. Our trip to the museum is on May 4<sup>th</sup> 2018, so please send your permission slips and money to the office as soon as possible.

During guided reading sessions, children will continue to develop their comprehension skills by reading, discussing and answering a range of questions about a selection of fiction and non-fiction texts. They will also continue to develop their speaking and listening through regular poetry recitals.

In Geography we will continue looking at climate zones and biomes around the world. We will compare different biomes and look at the animals present in each of them and how they adapt to their surroundings. We will also be going local and studying the local area of Hatfield Heath. This will help us to develop our map work, carry out field studies, make comparisons with other localities and dip into historical information about the area.

In Art, the children will be drawing and painting landscapes, taking into account, composition and perspective. We will be sketching local sites and creating our own interpretations of what we observe. In DT we will be tasting a range of fruit, sourced locally and from around the world. We will then create surveys and research products to help us create our own healthy fruit dishes. This will link in with our PSCHE topic, which will be Healthy and Safer lifestyles.

During the children's PE lessons we are very lucky to be working alongside a professional cricket coach from Herts and Essex Cricket Centre. Children will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques in cricket for 8 weeks. The sessions will begin on Thursday 26th April.

We will also continue to create and develop our own Aztec/Mayan dance. The children will develop their skills in responding and moving to a rhythm and they will compose their own sequence after learning some of the moves seen in traditional Aztec and Mayan dance.

Swimming will begin after the half term.

Please ensure your child has a suitable and labelled PE kit for the current weather as we will be outside one session a week. Earrings are not to be worn on PE days (Thursdays and Fridays).

During French lessons, we will continue to speak and engage in short dialogue between one another, as well as tackling some short written exercises. This term we will focus on families, homes and the classroom.

In Computing, we will be using a variety of programmes to collect, analyse and present data on a variety of topics. Children will continue to explore trustworthy websites as part of our ongoing Esafety work. We will also be doing online research to provide information for our class topics for this term.

Our RE focus for the term will be Buddhism, including the Buddha's life story. Therefore, if you have any Buddhist family members, friends or colleagues, who might like to come into class to share their beliefs and experiences with us, we would really enjoy learning from them.

Our Maths topics this term will be Statistics – interpreting and creating pictograms, bar charts and tables. Measures – including length and perimeter, time, mass and capacity. Our Fractions work will include making a whole, recognising tenths as fractions and decimals, as well as working out fractions of amounts. In addition to these topics, we will continue to learn multiplication and division facts through our weekly timetables tests. As always, multiplication and division comes into our lives daily, so it is important that the children can recall their times tables randomly, not just in order. Calling out random timetables questions any time you have a few minutes can help the children with quick recall. Youtube also have some great ways to help children to practise their tables in a fun, musical way!

Thank you for your continued support with your child's home learning and reading; it really does make a big difference to the children's confidence and progress. Please do make sure that every time you read with your child, you record the date and book title in their reading diary – this should be at least 3 times a week. Reading can come in many forms: their colour-band reading book, a free choice book, a book from the library or a book read to a younger sibling. The on-going discussions about what they have read, what they predict will happen next and questions relating to the text are vital to develop the children's comprehension. Please do try out some of the ideas from the handout that was distributed during parents' evening - they are designed to engage children and deepen their understanding of what is being read.

Children will continue to receive spellings and times tables on Mondays and will have a test the following Monday. Your child's spellings will be related to the rule we have practised in class and we will try to use some of those words, where applicable, in our writing.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to come and speak to me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs D Davis