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Clifton Primary School
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"Success and happiness for all"

10th September 2019

Autumn Term Learning 'Horowitz' and 'Walliams' classes

Dear Parents

Welcome back to our new school year at Clifton. Our class topic this term is called '**Extreme Earth**'. We will be introducing our class to the wilder side of the world! They will explore the Earth's greatest natural disasters and extreme weather phenomena, from raging tropical storms to violent erupting volcanoes to terrifying towering tsunamis. Years 4, 5 and 6 will enjoy a variety of inspiring class texts which link with our topic – to begin 'Horowitz' class will be exploring the incredible 'Floodland' by Marcus Sedgwick whilst 'Walliams' class will be exploring 'Shackleton's Journey' by William Grill and 'Ice Trap' by Meredith Hooper.

Classes organisation – Miss Simpson will teach Maths to 'Walliams' class, whilst Mrs. TB or Mrs. Thornton teach 'English' to 'Horowitz' class. The teachers then swap – this means Miss Simpson will teach all the Maths and Mrs. TB / Mrs. Thornton will teach all of the English. In this way we are teaching to our strengths and areas of expertise. Mrs. TB will teach Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Mrs. Thornton Thursday and Friday. Mrs. Thornton is in charge of the spellings across the two classes.

Things to remember:

- Please ensure that your child brings a **water bottle to school each day**. It is important that they have access to water at any time during the day to make sure that they remain hydrated. No juice allowed, just water please.
- **'STRIVE FOR FIVE' READING CHALLENGE**. Children are expected to read at home at least 5 times a week for at least 20 minutes per session. Please record all reading your child does at home in their planners (on the correct date in the diary section). Planners will be collected in on a Monday to record reading at home. Please also remember to sign your child's planner each weekend – children with signed planners each week gain additional house points!
- We will have PE sessions twice a week. Our **PE sessions** will be dependent on the weather so please can children have their **full PE kits in ALL week**.
- As well as reading homework there will be: **Weekly 'set' homework** which will be recorded in their planners on a Friday and this is to be completed by the following Thursday. This will include weekly spellings and 'Spelling Shed' games, a Mathletics activity and Times Table Rockstars. It is essential that these are completed each week. If anyone has any difficulties accessing a computer at home we can make arrangements for your child to complete any tasks in school. Please come in and speak to us about this.

If you would like any support or have any questions on any aspect of school life, please feel free to call or pop in and see us.

We look forward to working with you to ensure your child has the very best possible learning opportunities over the coming year.

With very best wishes

Sarah Threlkeld-Brown
Head Teacher

Nicola Simpson
Class Teacher

Annette Thornton
Class Teacher