7 January 2019

Dear Year 3 Parents

Our new topic this half term will be Active Planet.

**In Geography, we’ll be finding out:**
About how the Earth is formed
What a volcano island is and where they are in the world
What causes an earthquake
How earthquakes can be measured

**In Technology, we’ll be finding out:**
What makes buildings strong
About protective clothing and equipment
About how to put together a survival kit

**In Science, we’ll be finding out:**
About solids, liquids and gases in volcanoes
What happens when a volcano erupts
What happens when rock melts
How volcanoes can give off poisonous gas

**In History, we’ll be finding out:**
About the devastation of Pompeii

**In Art, we’ll be finding out:**
About hot and cold colours
About using different materials and techniques to represent a volcano

**In Physical Education, we’ll be finding out:**
How exercise can keep us healthy
Exploring patterns and movement in gym and dance
Exploring a range of swimming stokes with confidence
Gaining confidence in the water through team games.
In IPC, we'll be finding out:
About legends associated with volcanoes
Why people continue to live in volcanic areas despite the dangers
About international organisations that work after natural disasters
About the knock-on effects of earthquakes and volcanic activity

In Literacy we will be starting by reading ‘The Pebble in My Pocket’ by Meredith Hooper and Chris Coady. The learning aims for using this book are:
To explore an information text in depth
To come to know a complex history through talk, reading, writing, drawing and drama
To present understandings in writing, drawing and performance

In Maths we will be focussing on multiplication and division and using formal written methods to show working out. This will continue for 3 weeks and then go on to focus on measurement.

Swimming
Year 3 will be swimming on Monday afternoons this half term at Whitgift School pool, starting on Monday 14 January, please see separate letter for more details.

We will be handing out a new homework menu which will be based on the above learning and last throughout the Spring term.

Please remember that children should be reading a little every day and recording this in their reading record which will be checked daily. We are now expecting the children to comment on the language they are reading and thinking about its impact. Please also remember that the children now have their passwords for the Mathletics online resource.

Many thanks for your support,

The Year 3 Team