

# Ladysmith Junior School

## Year 4 Learning Letter

### Spring Term 2 2019

Reflecting back on the first half of term

***What we have been teaching for the first half of the spring term:***

- How to choose and use multiplying and dividing methods
- How to make and change sounds on objects in the environment
- How sound is produced, changed and travels
- Natural Disasters – why and where earthquakes can occur
- Writing very imaginative explanations for how things work

***What the children have most enjoyed learning:***

- About sound vibrations in the science dome
- Using different objects to produce sound vibrations
- Gymnastics
- About Sallie Buck's experiences with Shelter Box in disaster areas
- Making tectonic plates with salt-dough and finding that many mountain ranges are on the edges
- How to make model buildings to withstand earthquakes, using marshmallows and toothpicks
- Thinking up imaginative explanations!

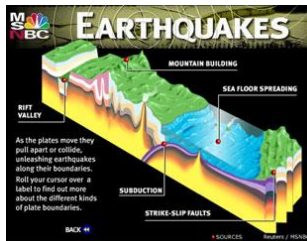
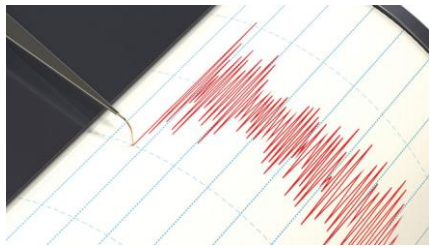
**What we have planned for the second half of the spring term**

***Our topics:***

- Earthquakes & Volcanoes - continued
- Properties of materials and changes of state

***Memorable and inspiring moments, including planned trips and visits:***

- Swimming lessons weekly
- Fund-raising for earthquake disaster
- Make and display street art for community
- Visit Exeter Cathedral



### ***Key learning in reading:***

- Use VIPERS to explore texts (vocabulary, infer, predict, explain, retrieve, summarise) in guided reading
- Read every day and record in reading journal
- Complete accelerated reader quizzes about texts read, aiming to score as well as possible.

### ***Key learning in writing:***

- Continue to improve presentation, using cursive joined handwriting
- Use accurate punctuation
- Use a range of sentence structures
- Understand and use paragraphs to indicate a change of time or place
- Use rich or emotive vocabulary in description
- Check and edit to improve impact of writing

### ***Key learning in maths:***

- Identify equivalent fractions
- Fractions greater than 1
- Find links between tenths and hundredths
- Simplify fractions
- Adding and subtracting fractions
- Fractions of amounts
- Decimals and place value
- Continue to practice times tables and related division facts  
e.g.  $32 \div 8 = 4$      $\frac{1}{4}$  of  $32 = 8$

### ***Key learning in other subjects:***

- Music – continue using the environment to create music
- Geography- continue to explore the causes and locations of earthquakes and volcanoes
- DT/art – making musical instruments. Make ‘street’ art.
- PE – swimming skills:  
4NM- Tuesday mornings  
4RC- Tuesday afternoons  
4AN- Friday afternoons
- RE – Why do religious books and teachings matter?

### ***How you can help your child with their learning:***

- Read regularly and ask questions about text
- Support with homework; practice spellings and times tables including associated division
- Provide opportunities for your child to practice telling the time