

Ladysmith Junior School

Year 4 Learning Letter

Spring Term 1 2019

Reflecting back on the autumn term

What we have been teaching for the second half of the autumn term:

- Writing a myth, using the 5 stages and developing a hero character
- Using bar models to work out addition and subtraction problems
- Multiplying and dividing, using times tables, including 1 and 0
- How an archaeological dig can give us evidence about the past

What the children have most enjoyed learning about:

- How to make Anglo-Saxon pottage
- How to draw and create a print of a Viking longship
- How to make an electrical circuit, add electrical components and control them with a homemade switch
- Rehearsing and presenting a Christmas show

What we have planned for the first half of the spring term

Our topics:

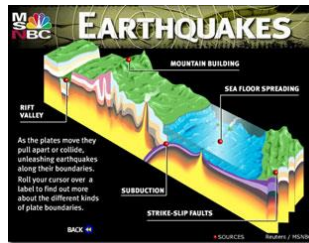
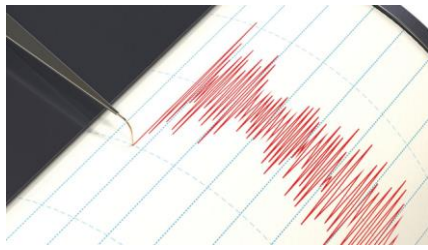
- How is sound produced and how can it be used to enhance our lives?
- Why do earthquakes happen and how are people affected?

Memorable and inspiring moments, including planned trips and visits:

- Make your own musical instrument
- Science dome experience
- Use a bicycle to generate electricity and explore sustainable sources
- Natural disaster day including raising money to support a charitable organization that works with victims of natural disasters
- Visitor from Shelterbox to talk about their charitable work with natural disaster victims

Key learning in reading:

- Complete Accelerated Reader quizzes
- Research information in non-fiction books
- Find synonyms and meanings of vocabulary in sentences
- Consider the author's vocabulary choices
- 'Why, where, when, what' questions- looking for clues about characters' feelings



- Look for hints that help predict the storyline
- Check the text to find the answers
- Develop skimming & scanning techniques when searching for information & facts.

Key learning in writing:

- Learn features of explanation text; plan and write own
- Understand and use paragraphs in non-fiction texts
- Write a recount of a dramatic natural disaster
- Understand how rich vocabulary (verbs, adjectives, nouns) affects the power of writing
- Use correct punctuation, and cursive regular handwriting
- Learn and use the statutory year 3 and 4 words

Key learning in maths:

- Solving problems with a mixed operation
- Using written methods to multiply 2 and 3 digit numbers
- Problem solving with multiplication and division
- Multiplication with more than 2 numbers
- Mixed correspondence problems
- Using written methods to divide
- How to divide with remainders

Key learning in other subjects:

- Geography – where earthquake zones are and what causes them. How people are affected differently by natural disasters and how effects can be minimized.
- DT – making musical instruments: with reusable resources (ways of joining materials), and evaluate
- PE – gymnastics, tag rugby
- Music - using the environment to make music
- PSHE - growth mindset
- RE - How should we live and who inspires us?

How you can help your child with their learning:

- Practice times tables & help them learn and use spellings
- Read with your child each week and help them to record their reading in their Reading Journal. Complete Accelerated Reader quizzes
- Practice telling the time and working out time intervals, using digital and analogue clock
- Provide opportunities for your child to practice mental arithmetic skills whilst out shopping
- Research making a 'junk' musical instrument with your child, make it and bring it to school. Participate in 'free concert' at end of term!