

Violent Volcanoes

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back and thank you all for your kind thoughts and wishes. I hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year break. On Tuesday 11 February the class will be visiting the Natural History Museum in support of this term's topic of the 'Volcanoes'. Our assembly will be on 6 March at 3 pm, we hope you can attend.

Science will be based on rocks and soils, building towards and understanding of the structure of our plant and how resources are used.

As **Historians** we will be placing significant volcanic eruptions on a timeline. We will also be looking at factual evidence of a past society - Pompeii which was devastated by the eruption of Vesuvius in AD 79. We will discover how archaeologists

As **Geographers** we will be practising our map skills by locating some of the world's best known volcanoes and by naming the countries and continents where they can be found. We will be describing the physical features of environments and looking at the effects of volcanoes on settlements.

As **Artists** we will communicate our ideas using digital media and will also will sketch and develop our drawings in the style of Hokusai,

Homework Your child will be set homework on a Thursday to be completed for the following Tuesday. S/he will have 1 piece of literacy and 1 piece of numeracy. However you may want to help your child with any aspect of project work on volcanoes. They may want to write a poem or a play. Art work is also a great idea for children to really motivate their own learning.

During **English** this term we will be studying some Myths and Legends from different world cultures, and writing our own myths and legends. There will be instructional texts taught which will link to our topic work.

As **Designers** we will be studying mouldable materials. We will have been learning about volcanoes all over the world - their wonder and power. We will have found out about the shapes and landscapes around volcanoes and have learnt about some famous volcanic eruptions such as Vesuvius, Montserrat and Mount St Helens. We will investigate products that use mouldable materials such as wax, Plaster of Paris and papier mâché. We will then design and make a product that has a volcano theme using one of these materials.

For **Maths** we will be calculating fractions, decimals, percentages and numbers into the thousands. We shall also be focusing on measures and conversions. There are many opportunities to help your child in some of these areas particularly when shopping or cooking. Looking at food labels is a good place to start. Times tables are also vital to your child if they are to make real progress in Year 3 so please, periodically help your child to learn these - little and often is the key.