



20th May, 2016

Dear Parents,

Over the next 5 weeks those of us in Year 3 will be following a unit of work on a theme that focuses on 'Earthquakes and volcanoes'.

During this unit we will be focusing on Geography, Technology, Science, History, Art and International.

As geographers, 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

As technologists, we'll be finding out:

- What makes buildings strong
- About protective clothing and equipment
- About how to put together a survival kit

As scientists, 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

As historians, we'll be finding out:

- About the devastation of Pompeii

As artists, we'll be finding out:

- About hot and cold colours
- About using different materials and techniques to represent a volcano

As international learners, we'll be finding out:

- About international organisations that work after natural disasters
- About the knock-on effects of earthquakes and volcanic activity

During this unit, children will be reading, researching, writing, illustrating, working on their own and working in groups. We will be checking to see how well your child has learned through particular activities and asking children to explain their work, perhaps to you.



We already know the interest you take in your child's work. If you can, please discuss with your child the work they have done as the term progresses and let them teach you. Talk with your child about recent earthquakes, volcanoes or tsunamis you might have read about in newspapers or seen on television.

If your child has some work to research, please help them, but without actually doing the work. If you have the chance to further their interest in the ideas of this theme please take it, but your enthusiasm and interest is most important.

By the end of the unit, we hope your child has achieved all of the learning targets. We hope they have had an enjoyable time in the classroom. And we hope you have enjoyed seeing your child work with enthusiasm. If you have any comments or questions about your child's learning, please get in touch.

Kind regards,

The Year 3 Team