

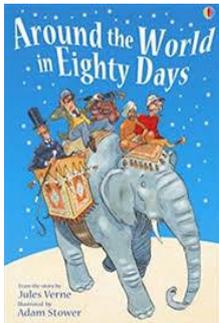
NEWS FROM CLASS 13

JANUARY 2021

Happy New Year !

We hope you were able to enjoy Christmas, even if it was not quite as you had planned. Obviously, we are living in uncertain times at the moment, but we continue to plan for the term ahead, hoping that we can continue as normal at school, at least as much as we can, given all the rules around COVID-19 safety.

This term, in Class 13, our topic is going to be "Around the World". We are going to spend a short time



finding out what life is like in different countries and areas of the world. We



will only be able to cover basic information but will look at things such as climate and weather, animal life, basic geographical features and aspects of daily life such as food and music associated with the place.

We will be reading a class story which will tie in with our topic in a loose way. It is a simple version of the classic adventure story "Around the World in 80 Days".

As well as topic work, the students will continue with all their individual targets. This includes working on their English and maths skills. They will also continue to develop independence skills and learn how to do things that will assist them in adulthood. For some students this will include being able to give

personal information about themselves, such as knowing their full name, how old they are and where they live. They will make "passports" with



this information, to take with them on their travels! If you are able, it would be very helpful to talk through some of this personal information at home.

The majority of the students have targets around developing their fine motor skills and they will continue to complete activities to improve these skills., especially things that involve the use of both hands. At home you could encourage them to take lids and tops off different containers or boxes.



At school, the students will think about some of the things they would need to take on a trip to the different countries. If they go to the beach in Australia for example, they will need their swimming things and a sun hat. If they go to a snow- covered country, they will need a woolly hat and gloves. For any trip they would need a toothbrush, night clothes and anything they have that is special to them such as a teddy bear. It would be useful if you could take some photographs of your child's belongings and email them to me. I will then be able to print off the pictures so we can use them for our work.



All the usual lessons and activities will continue in some form or another. Students who follow a physio programme will exercise or spend time in their equipment. There will be opportunities to mix with students in other classes either for lessons or outside at break times. There will be lessons which have a sensory focus and all the students will be encouraged to make choices about their preferred activities and communicate their chosen options.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you want more information about the work we are doing. I will endeavour to keep you up to date via email or phone!

Thank you for all your support,

Moyra, Janet, Sean and Jo

