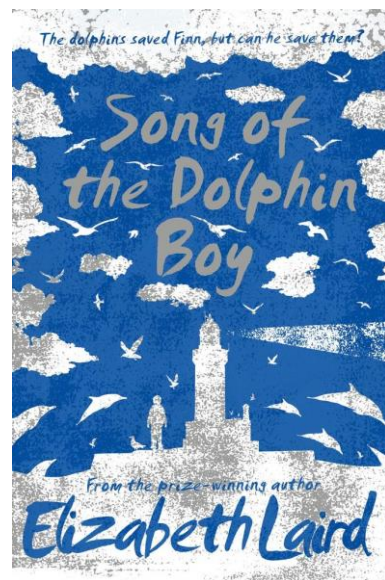


Year 4 Newsletter – spring 2.

This term we will be reading Elizabeth Laird's *Song of the Dolphin Boy*. This links with our topic on **environmentalism and conservation** and it gives the children a chance to experience a humbling story about a child who feels they don't fit in with the other children in their tiny fishing village in the far north of Scotland. That is until he meets the dolphins.

The book- *Song of the Dolphin Boy*- is the story of Finn, an 11 year old boy who lives in Stromhead, a fictional fishing village in Scotland. His mother left them when he was very small, mysteriously disappearing one day. His father hasn't been the same since, and that isn't helped by the rumours about what happened to his mother- will Finn ever see her again?



<p><u>English learning</u></p> <p>Writing- We will be inspired by our big topic of environmentalism to create activist poems, write letters to our local members of Parliament, and reports on the oceans.</p> <p>Reading- We will be developing our fluency skills and comprehension skills through our whole-class reading sessions.</p>	<p><u>Maths Learning</u></p> <p>Maths- This term we will start by focusing on graphs and statistics, before moving onto fractions, time and decimals.</p> <p>Times tables- We now have Times Table Rock Stars to help support the children in learning their timetable. We've been really impressed with the engagement from all of you so far so keep it up.</p>	<p><u>Science learning</u></p> <p>States of matter – Science will see us explore the different states of matter- gases, liquids and solids.</p> <p>Thinking like a scientist- We will be working on developing our questioning skills and how we use these to develop an understanding of the world around us.</p>	<p><u>PE learning</u></p> <p>Catching and throwing skills We will be focusing on the skills needed to play games involving throwing and catching. PE will be on a Tuesday.</p> <p>Working as a team- As always, a big focus in PE will be working effectively as a team.</p>
<p><u>PSHE- Jigsaw</u></p> <p>Healthy me- This topic of work aims to build an understanding of how to look after our bodies, both in body, mind and spirit.</p>	<p><u>Geography learning</u></p> <p>The water cycle- This half-term we will be looking at the water cycle and how humans can and have impacted upon it.</p> <p>We will also look at climate change and it's impact on our planet.</p>	<p><u>Art and Design</u></p> <p>Design- In D&T, we will look at the invention of plastic and how it has developed over the years, including how it can harm the environment.</p> <p>Art- In art we will be creating art out of recycled objects, inspired by amazing artists who create beautiful and evocative sculptures.</p>	<p><u>Music Learning</u></p> <p>In Harmony- We will still be doing In Harmony session every Friday, so instruments need to be in on these days.</p>

What can you do to support your child's learning?

- 1) Listen to them read and read to them. Ask them questions about what they have read or heard and make predictions of what they think might happen in the story. Make sure to record this via the reading log.
- 2) Encourage them to use), Times Table Rock Stars, Spelling Shed, and My Maths. Knowing their times tables is so important, so rehearse these whenever you can. The spellings on their homework relate to the spelling learning we are doing in school, so it is important that they practice these at home.

Thank you very much,

Mr. Ebling & Mr. Nicholls