

# Year 3 Autumn Newsletter

**A warm welcome to our children and families beginning Year 3.**

## English

Much of our literacy work in Year 3 is linked to our topics. Our first topic this term is Ancient Egypt and we will use this fascinating subject as a basis for story-telling and lots of other areas of reading and writing. We work hard to improve our descriptive writing and the quality of our sentence structure. We also study newspapers and poetry.

Reading is a huge part of Year 3! Children should read every night for ten minutes and have their book signed. This could be their reading book, library book or a book they enjoy reading from home. The children will read in class and will be given reading homework but this should not be the only reading they do. The children are now responsible for changing their own books.

The children will be given weekly spellings as part of their homework and they will be tested on the following Friday. The new curriculum includes a vast bank of spelling patterns to be covered and your support in learning the words and patterns will be really important this year. Children will also be encouraged to check spellings with a dictionary.

## RE

R.E: This term we begin with our new topic 'Homes'. We will be looking at living together as a family and the life of the Holy Family. We then move onto the topic of Promises, where children explore Baptism. A copy of the Diocesan parents' leaflet with extra information will be sent home soon.

## Maths

This term we are concentrating on developing the children's knowledge of place value, including money, and ordering numbers. We will also be working on addition and subtraction, shape and symmetry. After half term we focus on measures and handling data and then begin working on multiplication facts. We also look at fractions and telling the time. Please support your child with telling time on a daily basis, in both digital and analogue format.

Times Tables

By the end of Y3, we expect the children to know confidently the following times tables:

(Y2 level): 10, 2, 5

(Y3 level): 3, 4 & 8 as both multiplication and division facts. Helping your child to learn these tables will help them achieve in many areas of maths. We will work on these a lot in class and test the children's knowledge



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**Daily Checklist: Water bottles, reading book / record book, swimming kit ( 9-20 Oct)**

## Science

We begin with a topic where we learn all about the muscles and skeletons. This is part of the Animals, including Humans topic. Children will also learn about nutrition and digestion, understanding the impact of exercise and a healthy, balanced diet.

## Geography / History

Our very exciting topic is Ancient Egypt! This will include work covered in Literacy, History, Geography, Maths and Art. We start by learning about the importance of the River Nile and how people thrived in the desert! We find out all about the pharaohs and pyramids, religion and burials and their daily life and culture. This is a fantastic topic which is always thoroughly enjoyed by the pupils.

## French

We use French every day in class for lots of our daily routines. Once a week we will also have a lesson where we study greetings, asking and answering questions, colours, numbers, classroom objects and commands.

## PE

Swimming will start on Monday 9th October, **every day** for two weeks.

Children will need a lycra style swimsuit / shorts (not baggy) and a towel in a lightweight drawstring bag.

Hockey and dance units will also be taught throughout the term leading up to Christmas.

Please ensure children have outdoor PE kits on Thursdays as we will be outside this half-term and it can be cold. (Trainers or PE shoes for outdoor PE and indoor PE shoes kept in school)



## Art & DT

We start the year in style with our '**Great Egyptian Bake Off**' where we learn the importance of bread to the ancient Egyptians and look at shaping and kneading dough.

We will also investigate different types of bread and current food fashions. The children will have the opportunity to bake the Egyptian bread and then their own bread design.

Our lovely topic allows us lots of opportunity for artistic activities and we paint our own portraits as ancient Pharaohs.

## IT

The children will start with an exciting unit on Animation developing their programming skills.

## Music

We are very lucky to have Mr Harbisher from Tees Valley Music to teach us music this term. We will be learning to play the recorder as well as lots of singing.

