

# Curriculum Newsletter Autumn 2018



## 3NS, 3/4RT and 4DS

Welcome back! We hope that you had a lovely, enjoyable summer holiday. Returning to school after a six week break can be quite daunting for some (including adults), but we have been amazed by how quickly the children have settled into their new classes and daily routine as part of Transition Two (lower Key Stage Two).

The 3/4 team this year is led by Mrs Bright as phase leader and includes 3NS, taught by Mrs Nicholls and Mrs Shami, which is supported by Miss Price and Mrs Croxford. 3/4RT is taught by Miss Tully and she is supported by Mrs Mallaber. 4DS is taught by Mrs Sadler and is supported by Mrs Mathews.

The team are really excited about the new school year which lies ahead, and we have planned some topics and learning opportunities to excite, inspire and engage pupils. This term, Year 3/4 will learn about Mexico: 'Why do they celebrate the Cornish Pasty in Mexico?'. This week saw the launch of our topic, where children experienced a carousel of activities throughout the day. Next week each class will meet Clint from Geevor Mine. Through workshops, pupils will explore mining artefacts and objects, try on mining clothes and have a chance to ask any questions that they may have about the mining industry and its history. We are also planning a visit to The Cornish Studies Library in Redruth, where we can further develop our knowledge of Cornish mining. Further visitor and trip information for the term will be sent home shortly.

<b>English</b>	To begin the new term, we will be focusing on the story 'Thomas and the Tinnerns' by Jill Paton Walsh, which directly links with our topic. We hope our planned visits and visitors will help the children to develop their use of adventurous vocabulary and to rewrite the story in their own words. We will be encouraging the children to write in sentences that make sense and include appropriate punctuation. This year there will be great emphasis on prompting the children to edit and improve their written work, to ensure it is the best it can be.
<b>Maths</b>	The beginning of the year always begins with number and place value. For Year 3, this will include: counting in multiples of 4, 8, 50 and 100, recognising what each digit in a 3-digit number represents, and comparing and ordering numbers up to 1000 (in both numerals and words). There will also be dedicated sessions in the week to explore and extend their knowledge and recall of mental maths. This will include improving the speed and accuracy of their recall of multiplication and division facts.
<b>Topic</b>	During our topic work, we will cover a variety of subjects from the National Curriculum including science, geography, history, art, design technology and music. Our topic focus is inspired by the question 'why do they celebrate the Cornish Pasty in Mexico?' We will be learning about tin mining in Cornwall, what it was like to work in the mines, what equipment they used, what happened to the tin, what the women and children did, what they ate and much more.
<b>Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE)</b>	As a school, we will continue to focus on key learning behaviours through Building Learning Power (BLP) in order to help pupils become better learners and prepare them for a lifetime of learning. Such skills include: Try again Tortoise (perseverance), Weave It Spider (making connections), Curious Cat (questioning), Observant Owl (reflectiveness) and Team Bee (collaboration).
<b>Computing</b>	Online safety is a key focus for us at Penneweth at the beginning of each term, so we will be holding discussions about how to use the internet safely and appropriately. We will then be using the Internet to research and explore our topic areas whilst developing the children's word processing skills and making links with our writing in English.

<b>RE</b>	Initially, pupils will be learning the basic principles of Islam, including: the five pillars of Islam, Hajj, the Islamic holy book and their holy place. Following this, children will then begin to compare and contrast Islam with Christianity.
<b>PE</b>	PE will take place on <b><u>WEDNESDAYS for Class 3NS, MONDAYS for Class 3/4RT and on TUESDAYS for Class 4DS.</u></b> Please ensure your child has a full named PE kit in school <b><u>EVERY DAY.</u></b> Kit should include a green t-shirt, blue or black shorts and plimsolls or trainers in a named bag. 3/4RT currently have swimming lessons on Wednesdays. Please ensure that they bring their swim wear and have their money every week.

### How you can support your child's learning at home

- Children are expected to read at home at least **five** times per week. Your child's reading diary will be checked daily so please ensure it is dated, signed and returned **every morning.**
- Every week your child will have the opportunity to select a library book of their choice and share it with an adult at home. Library books must be returned before a new replacement can be provided.
- Bug Club is a great way to support your child's reading at home. Usernames and passwords have been provided and can be found at the back of reading diaries. If you do not have this information, please contact your child's class teacher. If you do not have access to the internet at home, then please let us know. A reminder that Chromebooks are available during Breakfast Club for such activities.
- Abacus maths homework will be set online via the Activelearn website. This is a fantastic resource which enables children to revisit and consolidate what they have been learning in class at home, providing you with the opportunity to gauge how your child is progressing in maths also.

### Important Reminders

- If your child is asthmatic, please ensure that they have a clearly labelled pump that can be kept safely in school. We want to encourage the children to be as self-sufficient as possible.
- Please ensure that your child has a named coat in school every day. The Cornish weather is unpredictable! Check that all items of your child's clothing are clearly labelled.
- If your child is being collected by another adult, please let the class teach know or contact the office. If your contact information changes, please also notify the office as soon as possible.
- We encourage the children to bring in a named water bottle to help to keep them hydrated throughout the day. Please ensure that these only contain water.
- Only healthy snacks will be permitted during morning break (e.g. a piece of fruit or muesli bar). Chocolate, sugary snacks and crisps are not allowed. A variety of hot and cold tuck will be available for children to purchase every morning.

**We look forward to working together with you and your child on the next phase of their exciting learning journey here at Pennoweth. Should you wish to speak to a member of the team, please find us at the end of the day or make an appointment via the office.**

The 3/4 team