

# Burwell Village College Primary School



## Year 3 Newsletter: Spring 2019

**Mrs Parrett, Mrs Harradine, Miss Eatock and Miss Taylor**

Welcome back! We hope you had an enjoyable and well-deserved rest after a busy Autumn term. We have enjoyed seeing the children grow in independence and embrace the challenges of KS2. We had lots of fun learning about life in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. We hope you enjoyed the Year 3 Carol Concert; we were very proud of their performance. This term, we will be finding how life in Britain changed when the Romans arrived!

### **This term:**

#### **English**

We will be starting the Spring Term by reading *Escape From Pompeii* linking our English to the topic of the Romans. During the term, the children will be introduced to Mrs Wordsmith vocabulary. As part of the Fenland Powerful Word Project, we are trying to increase the children's vocabulary. We will be having daily vocabulary instruction where children will learn a word, the meaning and etymology of it. We are excited to be part of the project and hope the children will enjoy the new resources.

Later in the term, we will be studying explanation texts. Children will learn to identify key features and learn a process through Talk for Writing. The children will develop and apply their writing skills to produce an effective explanation of a process.

Children benefit from daily reading and discussion of texts that they have read. Please continue to encourage your child to read regularly at home. The levelled reading books are currently situated in the corridor outside 3B. All reading books at school can be taken home; please ensure your child always has a reading book and changes their book regularly. We welcome parents to come in with their children to change books at the end of the day.

#### **Maths**

We will start the term by finishing our multiplication and division unit. The emphasis will be on division. We will then progress on to investigating fractions. The children will develop their understanding of fractions and learn to find, identify and write fractions of amounts. We will then move on to comparing and ordering fractions, and identifying equivalent fractions. We will be exploring measuring, telling the time, capacity, weight and length. It would be useful if children can be encouraged to use clocks/watches at home to consolidate this skill of telling the time. We will also continue to develop our strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

#### **Homework**

We are conscious of the amount of homework that we are expecting the children to do therefore we have made slight amendments to the sheet. We will continue to ask the children to do daily reading, spelling and times tables. The spellings will be given to the children in school on a Monday and they will develop learning strategies and word application with their teacher during the week. We will be using Spelling Shed as a teaching and testing resource. The children will then bring their spellings home on a Friday to consolidate their learning. They will be tested on their spellings the following Wednesday in their ICT slot on a Wednesday afternoon. During that time, the children will be tested on their times tables using Times Tables Rock Stars. There will be a letter attached to the first homework sheet explaining this in more detail. If you have any worries, queries or feel your child would benefit from more work to do at home please come and talk to us.

## Science

**Forces and Magnets** To begin the term, we will be exploring forces and magnets. Children will have the opportunity to carry out scientific experiments to test and compare the strength of certain magnets, and what factors can affect forces.

**Plants:** Children will learn to identify and describe different parts of flowering plants. We will explore what plants need to help them grow and how this varies from plant to plant. We will investigate water transportation and seed dispersal.

## Topic

**Romans-** We will be finding out about life in Britain before and after the Roman invasion. We will be comparing the way of life between the Celts and the Romans and finding out how and why the Romans decided to invade. We will then look at modern day Britain to find evidence of the Roman legacy. The children will even have an exciting opportunity to experience Roman life first-hand during our Roman Day on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 (letter to follow).

## Computing

We will be using our computing time to reinforce learning done during English and Maths. In particular will be using Spelling Shed, My Maths and Times Table Rock Stars.

## PSHE

**Diversity and our Communities** – We will be exploring our identities, valuing difference and learning about the communities around us.

## RE

Islam: We will be exploring how sacred books influence how Muslims live.

## French

In Spring Term 1 we will be learning colours in French and listening to the song Leon le Chameleon.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHII3ydsL8U> You may want to sing the songs at home.

We will be exploring how to use a bilingual dictionary to look up new words and we will link these to colours by writing some of our own verses of the song.

In Spring Term 2, we will be using the story book "Petit Poisson Blanc" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UM9SECUHQBQ>. We will be looking at masculine and feminine nouns and how the spelling of adjectives (specifically colours) have to change depending on if they are describing a masculine or a feminine noun.

## Art / Design Technology

To link to our Roman topic, we will be designing mosaics and making Roman shields to use during our drill practice.

## Important dates:

- Parent consultations: Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> (3.30 – 6.00 p.m.) February and Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> (3.30 – 6.00 p.m.) February 2019
- Roman Day: History off the Page will visit our school on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- Year 3 Café: 3B and 3C Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup> 2019 and 3A Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019 (More information to follow)
- Year 3 and 4 Orienteering – Burwell: 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- Swimming for 3A and Half of 3C – Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March, and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

We will need volunteers to help us on our Roman and Orienteering days. If you are interested, please let the class teacher know. Please note that you will need to have been DBS/CRB checked by the school prior to accompanying us on trips.

## Term dates:

- School training day (closed to pupils): Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019
- Half term: 18<sup>th</sup> February- 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019
- Spring term closes: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019
- School re-opens: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

## Indoor P.E. – Monday

## Outdoor P.E. – Friday

Kit: blue or black shorts; plain white or navy blue t-shirt; trainers. Children will need to bring a warm top and tracksuit bottoms for outdoor P.E. Earrings must be removed for P.E. and new County guidelines state that tape cannot be used to cover earrings.

Water bottles are encouraged at school but need to be taken home and washed regularly.

There are links from the school website [www.burwellvillage.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.burwellvillage.cambs.sch.uk) which enable parents to pay for school meals and school trips via Scopay.

## Contacting members of staff:

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff by phoning the school office or speaking to the TA on the door.