



Year 3 Autumn Term

September 2020



Dear Parents,

Welcome back! For those parents/guardians who I have not had the opportunity to meet, I would like to introduce myself as your child's year 3 teacher and Mrs Rai as our learning support practitioners. I hope you had a lovely summer holiday and you are ready to begin working hard in year 3. We have some exciting learning coming up during this term, below is the key curriculum information for this term.

English

We will be exploring a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts during the autumn term. Throughout the term, children will have the opportunity to complete an extended piece of writing to practise the process of planning, drafting and making improvements to their own work as well as their peers. Writing will also be developed through the curriculum.

Guided reading will continue to take place each week and home reading books will be allocated to each pupil. Children will have a weekly reading comprehension session in order to develop their understanding of texts. Please remember to record any reading in your child's reading record where possible.

SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) will be also be taught throughout English lessons. There is a huge emphasis on spelling in the year 6 SATs and we want to prepare the children well in advance therefore it is crucial that children are learning their spellings at home each week.

Handwriting will be practised throughout the week in school with the focus letter joins changing. Handwriting pens will now be given out by Mrs Crozier and Mrs Rogman. When I feel your child is ready for a pen they will have to prove to Mrs Crozier and Mrs Rogman that their handwriting is consistently neat with the correct joins across all subjects. Handwriting pens can also be taken away from children if their handwriting becomes inconsistent.

Maths

The topics that will be covered in maths during the autumn term are:

- ✓ Place value
- ✓ Addition and Subtraction
- ✓ Multiplication and division

Throughout lessons, children will explore reasoning and problem solving to help them to develop a deeper understanding of maths within each unit. Each week children will have mental arithmetic tests and times tables tests. Times tables are a big focus in Year 3 to prepare children for the test they will need to take towards the end of year 4. Each child has been given a Times Table Rockstars login which they can use at home.

History

Our autumn term topic will be the Stone Age through to the Iron Age. The children will begin by exploring what prehistory is and to be able to understand what BC and AD are. They will also be ordering events in chronological order. The children will also be exploring Stonehenge and the mysteries surrounding it. To finish the topic, children will explore what lives are like during each period, making comparisons between each period.





Art

During the first half term, the children will be exploring prehistoric art. They will be using a variety of materials including charcoal and natural resources to create cave paintings similar to those creating during the prehistoric period.

Design and Technology

After half term, children will be exploring where we get our food from. They will begin by making their own Japanese fruit skewers and learning how to use the equipment safely to do this. As we move later into the unit, the children will be designing their own winter fruit crumble using fruits available at that time of the year.

Science

During this term, children will be learning about properties of rocks, including how they and fossils are formed, and light in our environment. These lessons will be extending on the children's knowledge of physical objects that they learnt about during the early years within the school. They will commence on writing scientific reports about what they have learnt with the experiments we do in class. This will be good practise for further report writing that will be completed in later years.

French

Children will learn to pronounce, write and read French vocabulary. They will begin by looking at basic French words and phrases based around colour, number and family members. Children will engage with language through catchy songs and illustrated stories.

PE

PE will be led by a new PE coach this year and will take place on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. This year, children need to come to school in tracksuits as they will not be getting changed in school. It would be appreciated if you could ensure that your child arrives to school on these days in tracksuits as PE is a compulsory part of the curriculum.

Music

Children will be learning how to play the trumpet as a class. Trumpets are provided by the school and a letter about the children taking them home to practise is to follow in December with more information about their learning. We hope to perform a few pieces for all parents by the end of the year.

RE

This term the children will be exploring Hinduism and answering the question 'would celebrating Diwali at home and in the community bring a feeling of belonging to a Hindu child?'. They will be exploring the story of Rama and Sita as well as looking at how and why Hindus celebrate Diwali. After half term, the children will be exploring the question 'has Christmas lost its true meaning?'. The children will be looking at how Christmas is celebrated in the UK and how consumerism may have lost the true reason that Christmas is celebrated by Christians.





PSHE

To begin the new term the focus in PSHE will be based on the theme of 'Being me in my world'. This will support children in settling back into school after the summer as well as supporting children to adapt to year 3. We will then move onto learning out celebrating differences after half term.

Computing

This term the children will be practising how to touch type to increase the speed they can type on a keyboard. All of these activities will be completed online using Purple Mash. Each child will have a personal login which can be found in their reading diary so they can practise these skills at home if they wish. Towards the end of the unit, children will be using Microsoft Word to cut, copy and paste text. They will also learn to edit the style and effect of their text and images to make their document more engaging and eye-catching. For example, using borders and shadows. Throughout computing, the children will also be exploring e-safety and how they can keep themselves online.

Homework

Homework will be handed out each Friday and should be returned by the following Wednesday and will also be available on the school website. Children will be given a spelling test every Thursday which will be given in their spelling booklet. These need to be brought in with their homework books on a Wednesday so their scores can be marked on them. The booklets will then be returned on Friday for them to practise next week's spellings. It is also important that the children practise their times tables as this is now assessed towards the end of Year 4. They can do this using Times Table Rockstars. Each child has a login in their reading diary and provides them with a fun and engaging way to practise their Times Tables as well as adapt to focus on the tables each child isn't as confident with.

Please can you also ensure that your child brings multiple drink bottles to school with them every day.

If you have any questions or concerns about year 3 please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to the year ahead.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Mr Smith, Mrs Stevens and Mrs Wildman

