

Year 3 Autumn 2 Newsletter 2020

Scandinavia

Dear Parents and Guardians

We have an exciting term ahead of us, packed with creative learning opportunities to help support the progress of every child in Year 3. We understand that your child's interest is likely to extend beyond the classroom, therefore, please find below an outline of the learning we hope to be covering during this term in Year 3, so you can support your child. The medium-term plan can be accessed on the school website at www.bankfootprimary.co.uk



A picture of Norway in Scandinavia

The children have just started their new topic '**Scandinavia**'. We will be reading the class reader; '**Ice Palace**' by Robert Swindells throughout our topic. In this story, the character travels through the cold, icy mountains to rescue his only brother from a terrible character, Starjik and his wolves.

Promoting British Values - Statutory Requirement

At Bankfoot, we will promote British Values, defined by the government as the following: democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

Rule of Law –

This term we will be discussing many social issues such as rules – should we have the same rules for every country?

Mutual Respect –

We will have many opportunities to explore the importance of mutual respect. For example, why is it important that every child has a right to education?

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC)

We aim to offer a curriculum focussed on promoting pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development and suitably preparing them for life in this school, their next school and beyond. The range of opportunities provided for pupils in our school helps to develop their self-esteem, confidence and creativity.

Geographers

As Geographers we will be locating countries using maps, focusing on the European region, Scandinavia. Our learning will include researching about environmental regions, physical characteristics such as fjords and rivers and lakes rushing through them.

Historians

As historians, we will be using the internet, books and newspaper articles to research detailed information related to a particular event and people in history.

We will be looking at different accounts of history to understand why these can give a positive or negative view of people in history in Scandinavia.

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Artists and Design Technologists

We will be using a variety of skills and techniques to produce artwork this term. We will look carefully at drawing, painting and sculpting and link these skills with our topic learning. Children will also use the internet to research art from other countries and learn about great artists, architects and designers.

Scientists

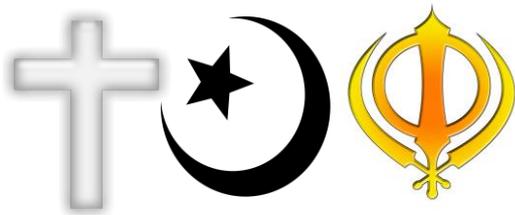
As Scientists, we will be studying Animals including Humans by learning about their anatomy and physical features. Our learning will incorporate discussions, investigations and researching. The children will develop their skills in grouping and classifying.

Throughout their learning, the children will be encouraged to use and develop their knowledge of scientific language.

Spiritual Thinkers

This term we will be focusing on Beginnings and how they link to the religions of Islam, Christianity and Sikhism.

In year 3, we will be exploring the deep question '*Does everyone have religious beliefs?*' Included within this, will be a focus on how to express our thoughts; discuss what we know and research how beliefs are expressed through the three religions Christianity, Islam and Sikhism.



Musicians

As Musicians, the children will use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and chanting rhymes. They will play tuned and un-tuned instruments. The children will have opportunities to listen with concentration and understand a range of high-quality live and recorded music. They will have the opportunity to experiment with a range of sounds. The children will develop the confidence to perform in solo and ensemble contexts.

Linguists

As linguists, in French we will be focusing on basic alphabetic sounds and the introduction of numbers, names, places, colours and animals. We will listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining and responding.

Health and Fitness

The children will continue to develop their fitness through a range of physical activities this term such as Athletics and Netball. The children will have set targets on how to improve their strength, stamina and sportsmanship.

Behaviour

Children are encouraged to always behave, be safe and be kind at school and in the wider community. Children know that this contributes to their learning and creates a positive school ethos. Children are taught to be considerate and supportive of each other.

Bronze certificate = 50 days of outstanding behaviour

Silver Certificate = 100 days of outstanding behaviour

Gold Certificate = 150 days of outstanding behaviour

Platinum Certificate = 175 days of outstanding behaviour

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Remote Learning

The period since 23 March 2020 has been one of great innovation in remote education. A wide range of approaches have been developed, tested and refined. Despite the challenges, remote education has made a significant contribution to enabling students to continue to learn and make progress.

At Bankfoot Primary School, we have embraced this approach and through the following ways, we are committed to providing all children with the tools and skills they need to ensure that they do not miss opportunities to develop and grow in these uncertain times.



Friday afternoon home learning

Weekly remote learning, where pupils complete work at home, now takes place on a Friday afternoon. Children can take home a school Chromebook (or use their own technology) to complete four tasks that are set online for them to complete. There are a range of different programs that the children have become familiar with and this provides weekly experience of completing work independently in a remote learning environment.

This opportunity allows the children to become more confident with working using a remote framework and be better prepared to complete any work that might be given through this platform.

The schedule for your child to complete work on a Friday afternoon will be the same each week. Work will be set at: 1pm, 1.30pm, 2pm and 2.30pm.

Self Isolation Remote Learning

In the event of your child needing to self-isolate and spend time at home rather than attending school in person, work will be prepared and provided for your child to access from their home environment.

If using your own technology is not applicable and you have access to the internet, Bankfoot will provide your child with a school Chromebook to access the learning. Your child will be familiar with this platform as it has been modelled and used by them whilst they have been attending school. All the instructions will be shared daily, with a repeated schedule of time to enable your child to complete the work as they would at school. (Friday afternoon will follow the schedule shared above).

Lessons are provided for your children to complete at:

9am, 10am, 11am, 1pm and 2pm.

If your child does not have access to the internet, a paper booklet will be accessible with learning tasks matching those of the other children working in school or at home using the internet.

Google Classroom Platform

In year 3, and as a school, we are using Google Classroom (a class-organization platform) as a base for all learning to be presented on.

Google Classroom allows a variety of different tools to be accessed in one central place (Google Docs, Sheets, Slides, Drive, and other Google products) so pupils can access everything they need to support their learning.



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Comments

The platform allows interaction between users. Therefore, staff and pupils can communicate instantly through messages. This ensures feedback is provided to the pupils on their work throughout the lesson. Pupils have the facility to respond to feedback from work completed online and share again with staff.

Muting / Unmuting

A key feature within the classroom is also the facility to mute and unmute pupils. Within the daily schedule, there are opportunities for pupils to chat, ask questions to each other and adults. However, during breaks, this facility allows adults to mute children to encourage time away from the device and chat with others in their household.

Screen Breaks

Although we are encouraging all children to complete their learning online, it is also important to have a balance between working at the device and participating in breaks. Currently, the children have incorporated opportunities to complete a brain gym / exercise activity and time away into their daily remote learning timetable.

The current scheduling for these times are:

9.45am-10am, 10.45am-11am, lunch break (12.00 – 12.45pm) and an exercise activity at 2.50pm.

We strongly encourage all pupils to take advantage of these breaks and readjust their eyes and body.

Google Meet

Within the Google Classroom, there is a facility for students to interact online in a virtual classroom environment. This is an area which year 3 will start to explore and experience this term.

Roles and Responsibilities

During remote learning, it has become even more important for all parties to take responsibility to make sure it can take place successfully.

During Friday afternoon home learning Time, and in the time of self-isolation remote learning, new responsibilities have developed for the children. On a Friday morning, it is a responsibility of the child to bring to school with them a safe and appropriate bag that they can take their Chromebook home in (if your child is taking a Chromebook).

Once completing the work – in the order set and shared by the class teacher – on Monday morning, it is the responsibility of the child to bring their Chromebook back into school so that it can be placed on charge ready for re use later that day. If your child forgets to bring their Chromebook back to school, this can affect the learning sessions for the rest of that day.

Parent user guides

Please use the link below to view videos for your own knowledge on how work is submitted and how the google classroom can be used.

Google classroom user guide

<https://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/sh2-bankfootprimary-co-uk/media/downloads/googleclassroomforparentsandchildrenhelpguideforwebsite.pdf>

Finally...

We very much appreciate and value the support you give your child. The school/home partnership plays an extremely important role in your child's progress and their learning journey. Thank you for supporting us in encouraging your child to be an independent learner. Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Year 3 team.