

Year 3 Spring 2 Newsletter 2024

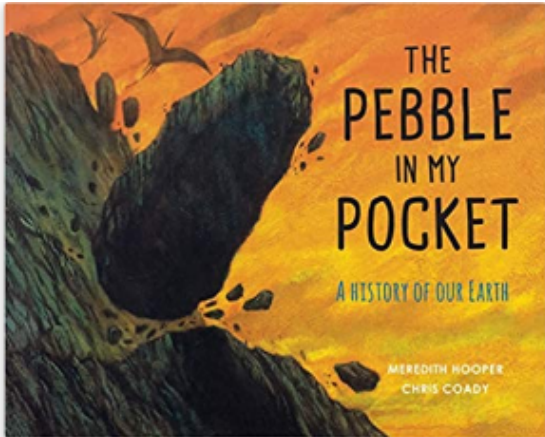
Why do people live near volcanoes?



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Time flies when you're having fun. Year 3 have been incredible last term and I am proud of their achievements. I am hoping you have had a fabulous half-term break with your families and the children are ready to embark on their learning adventure.

This term is full of interesting, cross-curricular reading of a range of texts and media to support our science and topic learning.



Our class reader for this topic will be 'The Pebble in my Pocket: A History of our Earth' by Meredith Cooper.

Geographers:

As Geographers, we will explore our big question, 'why do people live near volcanoes?' by studying natural disasters in the world, including. We will also use an atlas to locate countries where famous volcanoes exist, an example being Mount Vesuvius in Pompeii, Naples. Finally, we will look at the impact natural disasters have on the world.

Artists and Design Technologists:

In Art, children will be learning to describe objects, images, and sounds using relevant subject vocabulary. They will also focus on creating drawings that accurately replicate selected images. Through this process, they will be developing their observation skills and attention to detail.

To further extend their artistic abilities, the children will be selecting imagery and colours to create mood boards with defined themes and colour palettes. These mood boards allow them to experiment with different visual elements and express their creativity in a structured manner.

Spiritual Thinkers

This unit will explore the creation stories from Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Sikhism. It will consider how these stories have impacted faiths in the past, and how relevant they are today.

Pupils will compare and contrast the different creation stories. This unit builds on from work in Y2 on how we can look after our planet.

SMSC:

- **Spiritual development** - thinking about how beliefs are shaped by stories.
- **Moral development** - considering issues about how to protect the world.
- **Social development** - exploring questions together about how to look after the world.
- **Cultural development** - exploring the similarities and differences between creation stories.

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Mathematics

In addition to multiplication, we will also be covering division. This will help your child understand the relationship between division and multiplication. They will learn strategies for dividing whole numbers and be able to solve problems accurately and efficiently.

We will be exploring word problems, which offer real-life scenarios for your child to apply their mathematical knowledge. This helps to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as enhancing their ability to interpret and solve mathematical questions in context.

The children will finally learn about measurements including money, length, mass and volume in this half term. They will add and subtract amounts of money to give change, using both £ and p in practical contexts, measure, compare, add and subtract: lengths (m/cm/mm); mass (kg/g); volume/capacity (l/ml) and measure the perimeter of simple 2-D shapes.

Drama

The children will continue to express themselves in a range of dramatic activities such as freeze frames, hot seating and improvisation.

Linguists

In French we will learn how to respond to simple classroom instructions. We will recognise masculine and feminine objects in the classroom and ask questions to imitate the pronunciation of the French phrases. We will also prepare and present a short-spoken text.

Scientists

This half term in science, the children will be studying rocks and soils. They will identify the different types of rocks and engage in many types of enquiries, including grouping rocks using chocolate to make the different types of rocks. The children will study a range of texts in reading to ensure the science learning is developed throughout the term.

Computing

In Computer Science, the children will investigate how characters can be moved using 'events'. They will analyse and improve an existing project, and then apply what they have learned to their own projects. They will then extend their learning to control multiple sprites in the same project. Learners will then create the code to move the sprite in one direction before duplicating and modifying it to move in all four directions. The children will review an existing project against a given design and identify bugs within it. They will then correct the errors, gaining independence as they do so.

PSHE

In our Citizenship PSHE lessons, we will be focusing on the concept of rights and how they directly benefit our children. We will be discussing various rights that children have, such as the right to education, safety, and healthcare. Through understanding their own rights, the children will become empowered to advocate for themselves and others in a positive and informed manner.

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Health and Fitness

Throughout this term, we will be focusing on hockey and tag rugby. These sports not only promote physical fitness but also develop important skills such as teamwork, communication, and coordination.

During PE lessons, children will have the opportunity to learn and practise various techniques related to hockey and tag rugby. This will include learning how to hold and play with the hockey stick correctly, as well as understanding the basic rules and strategies of the game.

In tag rugby, they will learn how to evade opponents and work together as a team to score points.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Children's Mental Health

Last half term, was children's mental health week. The topic was My Voice Matters, which was about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves.

When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference have a greater sense of community and self-esteem.

This year, we want children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to be empowered to work together to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing.

Behaviour

We endeavour to be a school where children feel safe and happy. Therefore, at Bankfoot, they are encouraged to always behave their very best at school, in the wider community and in all other aspects of life. We have chosen three rules to follow to ensure we are considerate, welcoming and supportive to all. These are: **Be ready, Be resilient, Be better.**

Safeguarding

At Bankfoot, we encourage every child to tell, tell, tell. We want children to speak out and stay safe. In Year 3, the children are taught this and are regularly reminded to speak to a trusted adult about any of their concerns. We also have a worry box which allows children to express their feelings in a more discreet way, should they feel the need to do so.

Supporting websites

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/supermovers/times-table-collection/z4vv6v4>
www.educationcity.com/
www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/
www.ixl.com
www.grammar-monster.com
www.mathematics-monster.com
www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english

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This half term we will be focusing on the module 'Appreciate'.

Appreciate is focussed on teaching children the following:

- How being grateful or being thankful makes us feel.
- The different ways to show gratitude or to express our thanks.
- The importance of taking time out to stop and be grateful or thankful.

The modules of study will be:

1. Understanding why being thankful matters: Children will learn to recognise that giving and receiving gratitude feels good.

2. Identifying ways to be thankful: Children will learn different ways to express gratitude.

3. Taking time to show our thanks: Children will develop a habit of stopping and sharing what they are grateful for.

Pen Licences

We want as many children as possible to achieve a pen licence. We have some already, but we want more!

Handwriting will continue to be taught each week as we work on joining letters accurately using the correct join. They will continue to learn to form letters that are correctly spaced and relative in size to each other.



Forthcoming events

- Class assembly Tues 27 February
- Parents consultation Tuesday and Wednesday 28 February
- World Book Day Thurs 7 March
- Trip to Cliffe Castle Tues 12 March

Finally...

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Year 3 team.

Thank you!