

Year 3 Autumn Term Newsletter 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

This newsletter gives you a summary of Year 3 topics for this term and information relating to your child's learning. A large part of their learning will be based around the question "Who first lived in Britain?"

History

We will be:

- Finding out what life was like in the Stone Age, Bronze age and Iron Age
- Looking at evidence of life in pre-historic Britain
- Examining changes from the Stone Age to the Iron age



Literacy

In English, children will be exploring different fables and engaging in performance poetry. Children will also write regularly for other subjects. The theme for our Big Writes will link to the current literacy topic.

Writing at home

Please encourage your child to write for different purposes, e.g. shopping lists, instructions, stories, diary entries, etc. and promote the importance of correct letter formation and neat presentation. Some children may be required to do extra handwriting practise at home in order to improve their progress in writing.



Spelling

Children will learn to spell high frequency words, words with the same spelling patterns and topic related vocabulary. We will have a new focus each week in class. Children will take home a selection of words related to the weekly focus in a spelling book. New spellings will be stuck in at the front of the spelling book, and the test will take place in the back. Please help your child to learn the words. Spelling assessments will take place on Thursdays and will test children on the current week's spellings. New spellings will be sent home every Friday. There will be a Grand Spell in the last week of each half term. A copy of the 'Spelling Menu', with ideas of different ways to practise spellings, has been sent home.

Reading

Children in Year 3 will read during whole class guided reading sessions. There will also be regular, independent reading and related activities. Children will be given the opportunity to change their home reading books when they first enter the classroom or at the start of playtimes. It is expected that children will read at home a minimum of three times and record their reading in their green reading record book. Less than three reads will result in an extra read at lunchtime. This provides children with an opportunity to catch up with an extra read.

Maths

The class will have a daily maths lesson. This will have a main learning challenge and will also involve mental maths, counting and the learning of facts (Learn Its). The 'Learn Its' for this term will be the multiplication facts for the 3 times tables. You can help your child with maths by helping him/her to learn the tables (2x, 3x, 4x, 5x, 8x), number bonds to 20 and 100. Knowing multiplication and division facts is crucial to the understanding of many aspects of maths as your child progresses through school. Helping your child to tell the time to the nearest minute is also very important.

In addition to a recap of the essential Year 2 knowledge, your child will also be learning to:

- work with numbers to up 1000
- develop their understanding of place value
- add and subtract using three-digit numbers
- solve problems involving length, numbers and money



Children will take part in 'Big Maths CLIC' and 'Learn Its' tests on alternate weeks, which gives them an opportunity to practise different types of calculation. A copy of these tests sheets will be sent home in a 'Big Maths' folder so that your child can practise at home.

Science

In science, our learning will include planning and carrying out investigations relating to rocks, forces and magnets.

PE

Swimming will take place on Monday afternoons, although this will not be happening for the first few weeks of term. You will receive a letter telling you when this will be happening and what kit to bring.

Our class PE lesson will take place on Tuesdays. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate indoor and outdoor kit in school on this day. Kits will need to be taken home for washing after each PE lesson and brought back in time for the next lesson. Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name.

RE

In RE we will be thinking about what it is like to follow God. We will be exploring how different faiths celebrate Harvest. We will reflect on Christmas as a celebration of God's presence with us.

ART

Artwork will focus on drawing with graded pencils to show tone and texture. Art will be linked to our history topic, exploring cave art using pastels and charcoal.

Spanish

Our topic will be 'Yo' (All About Me). We will be learning basic greetings and making simple statements about ourselves.

Homework

Homework will be sent out on Friday and should be returned no later than the following Wednesday. If homework is completed before Wednesday, you are more than welcome to return it to school. Homework should be placed in the homework box. Please read the homework information, regarding presentation, at the front of the maths and literacy homework books. In addition to weekly homework tasks, children will also be expected to read regularly, learn spellings and practise times tables.

I hope that your child has settled well into Year 3 and has adapted to the transition from Key Stage 1. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to come and speak to me.

Thank you for supporting your child with their learning.

Mrs. Thomas

PSHE

In PSHE we will be learning about:

- Personal boundaries
- Rules and Responsibilities
- Right and Wrong and respect for the law
- Friendship and anti-bullying, including recognising others' feelings
- Showing respect and tolerance for others' faiths and beliefs

ICT

We will be:

- using the Internet for research
- learning about e-safety
- using publishing tools
- sending and receiving e-mails
- creating a database and data retrieval

DT

We will be looking at mechanisms with levers and linkages.