

Year 3 Newsletter – Spring 2

Welcome

Welcome to Spring 2! We are so excited for this half term; it is filled with many exciting topics and events! Below is a summary of what Year 3 will be learning this half term.

Reading

This half term, we are continuing to look at extracts from a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts. We will be using our reading comprehension skills to infer what authors mean in their writing. During guided reading sessions, we will also be using the echo reading approach to work on our expression. As always, we encourage the children to be reading at home as much as possible and we are grateful for the time you spend doing so.



Recommended reads:

The Puffin Keeper by Michael Morpurgo

The Beach Puppy by Holly Webb

The Wild Robot by Peter Brown

Writing

Our writing units this half term will be based around our Prehistoric Britain topic. We will be writing in a range of genres, both fiction and non-fiction, working on using organisational features, creating flow and improving our vocabulary. The children will have the opportunity to write their own story based on our focus text 'Stone Age Boy', alongside an information text all about life in Stone Age Britain.



After seeing some brilliant improvements in the children's handwriting, we are continuing to focus on this in Spring 2. The children would benefit from practising their letter formation and sizing at home too.

Maths

Following on from last half term, we are beginning Spring 2 by continuing with our length and perimeter unit. After this, the children will move onto our first fractions unit, towards the end of the half term. We will be combining both fluency and reasoning based questions to cover a range of mathematical skills.



We regularly revisit key skills in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, building the children's familiarity with the formal methods of these operations. The children also frequently practise their times tables in class, using the Times Table Rockstars format. At home, Year 3 children can log onto Times Table Rockstars to do some further practice.

Science

Our science topic for this half term is called 'Our Changing World'. We will be looking at how leaves, flowers and seeds change throughout the year. On top of this, we will be exploring our school environment to see which plants we can see on the school grounds. Our topic will involve a lot of observations and recording. The children will also practice representing their data in tables and graphs.



Computing

In computing, we will continue learning about emails and how online communication works. We will then delve into databases, exploring how branching databases work and then creating our very own database.

Art & Design/Design & Technology

We will be running an art unit this half term. The children will be exploring Prehistoric Art. They will be introduced to art forms from Prehistoric Britain and then be encouraged to reflect this style in their own artwork. They will be creating art with berries and other natural products, similar to those used in Prehistoric times.



Geography/History

This half term, our topic is called 'Prehistoric Britain' and it is History based. We will cover numerous lessons, such as placing Prehistoric Britain on the history timeline, discovering what life was like during the Stone Age, and the changes that were made leading up to the Iron Age. It is a brilliant topic that the children are already asking questions about. We can't wait to get stuck in!



Music

This half term, we will continue our African drumming lessons delivered by NMPAT. The children have been learning how to play the African djembe drum, leading up to a full musical piece. We are so impressed with how well the children are picking up the instrument, and we can't wait to continue with the lessons this half term.



PE

In Year 3, we have PE on a Wednesday and Thursday afternoon – please remember to send your child in wearing their PE kit on these days. Our Wednesday PE lesson this half term will be dance based again. The children will learn and create movement based on our science theme. Our second PE lesson will be centred around multi-skills. The children will work to improve their balance, co-ordination and agility over a series of lessons.



PSHE

Our weekly PSHE sessions follow the Jigsaw curriculum. Our next unit is called 'Healthy Me'. As a class, we will be exploring how to stay safe, how to keep fit and healthy, and how to keep calm in difficult situations. The Year 3 class really enjoy sharing their thoughts and experiences during our class discussions in PSHE.



RE

Our RE lessons will focus on the Easter story. We will hear stories from the Bible and relate this to common Easter traditions. Like PSHE, the children enjoy respectfully discussing different religious perspectives.



Enrichment

We are very lucky that this half term, we will be visiting the Curve Theatre in Leicester to watch a production of 'Annie'. The trip takes place on Wednesday 1st March. The children are very excited!



Homework Project

Here are some activities that link to our History and Science topics. If your child completes one, please bring it in – we would love to see it!



- Create a poster titled 'Top Tips to Survive in a Stone Age Camp'.
- Write a short story about a Prehistoric boy/girl who gets transported to the modern day.

- Record which plants can be found in your garden/local area. How do they change over the year?



Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities



Times Tables Rockstars



Spelling Shed



Rewards

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



Class information

Class Teacher: Miss Church

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Limehouse and Miss Porch

Please remember to name your child's school jumper or cardigan.

We request that all children bring a named water bottle to school every day.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.

Dates for the diary!

Monday 20th February – Start of half term

Wednesday 1st March – Curve theatre trip

Thursday 2nd March – World Book Day

Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th March – Parents' evenings

Friday 31st March – School closes to pupils



