

Year 3 Newsletter – Summer 2

Welcome

Welcome to Summer 2. I can't believe that we have already reached the final half term of the academic year! We have some brilliant events and topics lined up, which are summarised below.

Reading

During Summer 2, we will be continuing to improve our reading skills by exploring a range of fiction and non-fiction texts. We will also engage in paired and independent reading, as well as discussing the texts as a whole class. We are going to focus more on inference skills this half term, encouraging the children to read more deeply into the texts and unpick inferred meanings.



As always, we encourage the children to be reading at home as often as possible. Please remember to return any borrowed reading books so these can be changed regularly.

Recommended reads:

Dog Man by Dave Pilkey

Agent Asha: Mission Shark Bytes by Sophie Deen

Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis

Writing

Our writing units this half term will be based around animals. Firstly, we will write a character description based on The Pig from Roald Dahl's *Dirty Beasts*. The children will then have the opportunity to write their own animal poem inspired by what they have read. Towards the end of the term, they will also learn to write in a debate-style, deciding who was the real victim in *The Three Little Pigs* story. We will continue to emphasise the importance of handwriting practise throughout our English lessons too.



Maths

We will begin the half term with a unit on time, focusing on being able to tell the time to the minute on both an analogue and a digital clock. After this, we will move onto a unit on shape where the children will recall the names and properties of 2D and 3D shapes, learn about angles and lines, and learn how to draw lines and angles accurately.



In Year 3, we will be continuing our regular times table practice. The children thoroughly enjoy taking part in our Times Table Rockstar challenges. As always, the children are encouraged to log into Times Table Rockstars at home. Please do let me know if you require another copy of their login details.

Science

Our science topic for this half term is titled 'Rock Detectives'. We will be learning about the different types of rocks and how they change over time. They will also investigate the ways in which rocks can be used in the local environment. Towards the end of the unit, we will turn our attention to fossils, investigating how they are formed and learning about famous fossil hunters. I encourage the children to pay attention to rocks that they may see around their local area.





Computing

In computing, we will spend Summer 2 looking at presentations, why they are important and how they are created. The children will learn to add media, transitions and timings into their own presentation. Through this, the children will be able to work creatively and develop skills in decision-making.

Art & Design/Design & Technology

We have an art-based topic this half term. The unit 'Formal Elements of Art' is in place to upskill their artwork. The children will learn about the technique of drawing from observation, working firstly to notice the basic shapes in what they see. They will also learn how to shade effectively to create light and shadow in their drawings.



Geography/History

This half term, our geography topic is titled 'Looking at Europe'. The children will develop map and atlas skills as we explore the continent of Europe. We will do a case study of the Amalfi Coast, using this as a comparative with a local region in the UK. We will then develop our knowledge of European tourism by focusing on its environmental, social and economic impact.



Music

This half term, we will continue to follow the Charanga scheme for music. This half term, we will revisit some of the songs that the children have learnt this year, rehearsing and performing them in turn. Year 3 will develop their music appraisal skills by discussing what they can hear in each song, what emotions they evoke and whether they like the piece or not.



PE

This half term, our PE days are Tuesday and Wednesday; please remember to send children into school in their PE kit on these days. We will be running 2 PE units based on cricket and tennis this half term. In cricket, the children will learn the skills required to bowl, bat and field. They will also learn the rules of a cricket game and be encouraged to demonstrate brilliant sportsmanship. In tennis lessons, we will learn how to control the ball and hit it with accuracy.



PSHE

Our weekly PSHE sessions follow the Jigsaw curriculum. Our next unit is called 'Changing Me'. We will have discussions about changes that people go through in their life and how this can make them feel. This is a brilliant opportunity for the children to reflect on their journey through Year 3 and think about changes they will encounter when they move to Year 4. This will hopefully give them the reassurance they need and settle any worries they may have about the transition.



RE

Our RE lessons this half term will be based around Hinduism. The class will learn about the importance of the River Ganges for Hindus and use this as a comparative to discuss and write about how non-Hindus may feel if they visited the river. RE lessons are a lovely way for the class to discuss respectfully and considerately.



Enrichment

As part of our enrichment for this half term, the children will be taking part in an in-class, science workshop about rocks and fossils.



Homework Project



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

- Go on an outdoor rock hunt – can you identify the name and properties of the rocks you find?
- Research and create a poster about a country in Europe. Think about its climate, landscape and tourism.
- Create a presentation about a country in Europe using the skills you have learnt in Computing lessons.



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 Assistants: 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 5th June – school reopens to children.

Tuesday 27th June – in-school Geology Lab

Friday 7th July - Transfer Day

Wednesday 12th July – Sports Day

Thursday 20th July – school closes to children for summer.

Friday 21st July – staff training day

