



Year 3 – Term 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to Year 3!

We hope you have all enjoyed a relaxing summer break and are feeling refreshed for the exciting year ahead. Year 3 is an important transition into Key Stage 2, where children begin to develop greater independence, confidence and responsibility in their learning. We have a busy and exciting term planned, with engaging lessons and enrichment opportunities. Below is an overview of what your child will be learning this term.

English

Our English lessons will be inspired by the beautiful wordless picture book *Journey* by Aaron Becker. Through discussion, drama and creative writing, the children will explore character, setting and adventure before planning, drafting, editing and publishing their own imaginative adventure stories set in contrasting landscapes. Alongside this, we will continue to develop spelling, handwriting and grammar skills, focusing on expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials, paragraphs, conjunctions, direct speech and ambitious vocabulary to enhance their writing.

Whole Class Reading

Our class novel this term is *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown. This captivating story follows Roz, a robot who unexpectedly finds herself stranded on a remote island. Through whole-class discussions, we will explore themes such as friendship, kindness, resilience and belonging while developing fluency, vocabulary and key reading skills including prediction, inference, summarising and comprehension.

Mathematics

This half term, our main focus in Mathematics is Place Value. Children will develop their understanding of numbers up to 1,000 by representing, partitioning, comparing and ordering numbers. They will also use number lines, solve reasoning problems and explain their mathematical thinking using appropriate mathematical vocabulary before moving on to addition and subtraction, building confidence in both written and mental calculation strategies.

Science

Our Science topic this term is *Rocks and Soils*. Children will investigate different types of rocks by examining their appearance, properties and hardness through practical investigations. They will discover how rocks are formed, how they are used in everyday life, explore the importance of soil and learn how fossils are created.

Geography

Our Geography topic is *Land Use: How Diverse are Local and UK Landscapes?* Children will investigate how land is used in our local area before comparing it with different regions of the UK. They will learn about farming, settlements and how physical and human geography influence the way land is used, while developing their map-reading skills through the use of maps and atlases.

Religious Education (RE)

Our RE unit is *People of God – What is it Like to Follow God?* Taught by Mr O on Fridays, children will explore stories from the Old Testament, including the story of Noah, and consider what Christians believe about trust, obedience and faith. They will have opportunities to discuss beliefs respectfully and make links to their own experiences.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE)

Our PSHE topic is Being Me in My World. Throughout the term, children will think about what makes them unique, set personal goals, build confidence in sharing their opinions and recognise their own strengths. We will also explore managing emotions, understanding right and wrong, taking responsibility for our actions and considering how our choices affect ourselves and others.

Art

This term, children will focus on Drawing and Sketchbooks, developing observational drawing skills while experimenting with gestural drawing using charcoal. They will explore line, tone and texture, learning how artists use charcoal to create mood, movement and expressive artwork.

Music

In Music, children will explore Traditional Instruments and Improvisation: India. They will listen to a variety of musical styles from another culture, learn about traditional Indian instruments and experiment with creating and performing their own improvised musical pieces.

French

French lessons, taught by Mrs Gerbino on Fridays, will begin with the topic Greetings. Children will learn to introduce themselves, ask and answer simple questions and use basic conversational French with increasing confidence.

Physical Education (PE)

PE lessons will focus on developing the fundamental movement skills that underpin all sporting activities. Children will practise balancing, jumping, throwing, catching, hopping, dodging and coordination through a range of fun games and challenges, helping to build confidence, teamwork and physical fitness. On Fridays, the children will also take part in football sessions with Mrs Price.

Computing

Computing lessons, taught by Mr Brinkley on Fridays, will focus on email communication. Children will learn how to compose, send and reply to emails safely and responsibly while developing a strong understanding of online safety, respectful communication and appropriate use of technology.

Reminders

- PE lessons take place every Tuesday and Friday. Please ensure your child has a named PE kit in school throughout the week.
- Please encourage your child to read regularly at home and record their reading in their reading record.
- Our Term 1 Homework Grid will be sent home on Friday 4th September. Children should complete one activity each week and hand it in when finished. Homework books will be returned on Fridays after marking.
- Spellings will be tested every Thursday, with new spellings sent home on Fridays. We practise spellings daily in school, and any additional practice at home is greatly appreciated.
- Please continue to support your child by practising their times tables regularly.
- Please ensure that all uniform, coats, water bottles, lunch boxes and PE kits are clearly named.

We are looking forward to a fantastic first term filled with exciting learning, new experiences and lots of opportunities for your child to grow in confidence and independence. Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the term, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks for your continued support,

The Year 3 Team

Mrs Laidlow, Mrs Purver, Mrs Lound and Mrs Martin