



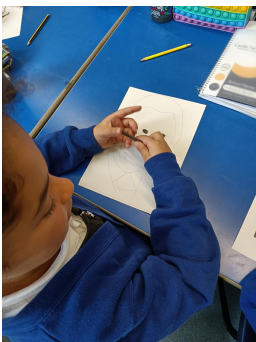
Spring 1

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Newsletter

### What we have been up to:

In Year 3 we have been...



Creating portraits of King Charles II using charcoal.



Learning about the jobs an archaeologist does with a visit from Mr Thatcher.

### English

This half-term, we will be reading the poem "Summer is Here" and using it to create our own seasonal poems using key language features such as metaphors, personification, alliteration, onomatopoeia and powerful verbs. Later in the half-term we will be reading and writing diary entries learning about how a diary entry might be structured and using language features such as time adverbials, adverbial phrases and adjectives.

#### How can I help at home?

Reading to your child stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. It helps them develop language and listening skills and it supports their reading comprehension. This continues to be important even when your child is a confident reader.

### Maths

This half term in year 3, we will be using multiplication and division skills learnt in previous years, introducing 3, 4 and 8 times tables and looking at them in more depth. We will also be learning how to use our new times table knowledge to answer problem solving questions.

#### How can I help at home?

Link everyday activities with maths, for example, telling the time or counting objects in groups of 3, 4 or 8. You could use pasta, lego, leaves (when helping in the garden) or counting in 4's using pairs of socks or shoes.

Encourage your child to improve their maths skills by using Numbots, and their multiplication knowledge with TT Rockstars.

### Science

We will be continuing to learn about light after the Christmas holiday, considering how light can affect our eyes and how we can best protect our eyes from damage.

Following this, we will be learning about forces and magnets. We will be exploring what forces we know, what magnets can do and what they are.

#### How can I help at home?

Talk to your child about magnets that you have at home, which are stronger? Which are weaker? Why do they think this is?



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### PSHE

Our topic will be Dreams and Goals. We will be identifying what our dreams and goals are and what the obstacles might be to achieve them. We will then consider how we can reduce these obstacles.

#### **How can I help at home?**

*Talk to your child about the dreams and goals you have had, the problems you have encountered and how you have overcome them.*

### History

We will be continuing to learn about the Stone, Bronze and Iron ages, building up to comparing them through looking at one aspect of prehistoric life. This half term we will be looking at the different types of housing across the period, evidence we have of the people and their lives and how and what they ate.

**How can I help at home?** *Visit the Higgins Museum, if you haven't already, to look at some of the artefacts there. Talk to your child about what they have learnt so far about the prehistoric period.*

### Computing

We will be beginning to learn about computer programming using the online platform Scratch. We will also be using [musiclab.chromeexperiments.com](http://musiclab.chromeexperiments.com) to create music using the computer.

#### **How can I help at home?**

*Children could practise their typing skills using Dance Mat typing. They could revisit the website Pixil Art to create art and animations and investigate the websites Scratch and Musiclab.*

### RE

In RE we will be thinking about how to make the world a better place. We will be thinking about the importance of rules, what charities do and how people help to make the world a better place.

### PE

Our PE themes for this half term are Health and Fitness and Basketball. We will continue to have a specialist PE teacher from Secondary to teach our outdoor PE lessons.

### Performing Arts

In Year 3 pupils study Performing Arts on a rotation. Pupils will have two terms of music, a half term of drama and a half term of dance. In drama with Mr Skeel, Turtles are learning to perform living history through drama refining their characterisation skills. Orcas class with Miss Green are currently learning to play and perform the Glockenspiel, following musical scores. Sharks with Mr Serino are singing a variety of songs.

### DT

We will learning about pneumatic systems and how they work. We will then be designing, making and evaluating our own pneumatic toy.

### French

We will be learning the names for different animals in French and learning about gender. Will look at colours as adjectives and their position in a French sentence. Pupils will write short descriptions of animals. We will read the story Ours Brun (Brown Bear) .

### Reminders / Key Dates:

4th January - Return to school

2nd February - Number Day

6th February - Children's mental health week

10th February - Break Up for Half Term

### Sharing Our Learning

We have launched new social media channels to help share the fantastic learning that is going on in our year group.

We'd love you to follow us and see what we've been up to:

[Twitter](#)

[Instagram](#)