



# Year 3 Spring Newsletter



Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope you have all had a lovely Christmas break, the children have come back to school eager to learn and we have a lot to look forward to!

Thank you for your continued support, Mrs Davies and Mrs Ellison

## English

During the first half of this term, our English work will be linked to our topic on Ancient Civilizations. We will be writing diary entries inspired by the book *The Egyptian Cinderella*. In addition, we will explore the process of mummification and write clear, step-by-step instructions. This term, we will also study Kennings poems.

In the second half of the term, our English work will focus on Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. We will be developing our skills in writing narrative and explanation texts.

Handwriting and presentation remain key areas for improvement, and we will continue to practise handwriting skills regularly.

Weekly reading is a huge part of Year 3!

It is really beneficial for children to read every night for around ten minutes and have their reading record signed. This could be their school reading book, a library book, or a book they enjoy from home. We read in class every day through guided reading and our class story. Please ensure your child brings their reading book to school every day.

The children will also be given weekly spellings to learn. These will be uploaded to Seesaw. As spellings become more challenging, practising at home will be very helpful in preparation for our Friday spelling test. We will continue to share additional activities on Seesaw for anyone who would like to support their child further.

## RE

R.E: Our topic this term begins with 'Journeys', looking at the liturgical year and learning that the Church's celebrations are community occasions. We will also be reflecting on celebrations in our own lives.

In our 'Listening and Sharing' topic we learn how Christians celebrate Mass and share the Eucharist.

Our last topic this term is 'Giving All'. During this topic we learn how people give themselves and that Lent is a time to remember Jesus' total giving.

As part of their learning about other faiths, we will explore places for worship in the Islamic faith.

A copy of the Diocesan parents' leaflet will be sent home for your information.

## Maths

This term begins with consolidating our knowledge of the 2, 4, and 8 times tables. We will then move on to learning about right angles—identifying them in our environment and investigating shapes by drawing polygons that include right angles.

We will focus on securing mental maths skills by learning a range of techniques to support and develop arithmetic. This includes adding 2- and 3-digit numbers.

Children will learn how to add numbers using the column addition method. If any column totals ten or more, we will 'regroup' and ensure digits are added in the most efficient order. We will also use the column subtraction method, making sure digits are correctly aligned.

Children will collect data and represent it in different ways. They will then analyse the data to answer questions.

This term, we will learn the 3 times table and related division facts, while continuing to practise the 2, 4, and 8 times tables from last term. By the end of Year 3, children are expected to confidently know the following times tables:

- **Year 2 level:** 10, 2, 5
- **Year 3 level:** 3, 4, 8 (as both multiplication and division facts).

Please encourage regular use of **Times Table Rockstars** at home to support this learning.



# Year 3 Spring Newsletter

**Daily Checklist:** - School water bottle and reading book everyday. Wednesday (every fortnight starting 7th January) – Wellies and waterproofs to change into for Forest School. Friday – PE Kit. Friday - Spelling Test.

## Science

Our first topic this term will be Plants, which is linked to our Rainforest topic. The children will learn about different parts of a plant, seed dispersal and the pollination process.

## History/Geography

We will be completing our Rivers topic in Geography and looking forward to enriching our learning with our forthcoming fieldwork visit to Teesmouth.

In History this term we will study and compare the achievements of the earliest civilisations including Ancient Egypt and Ancient Greece

## French

Each session, the children learn new vocabulary and then practise by singing songs in French, making learning fun and engaging. Our topics for the spring term are *Mon Corps* (My Body) and *Les Animaux* (Animals).

## PE

In Gymnastics we will be performing a variety of jumps showing control on the floor and on apparatus. We will be creating sequences using different types of rolls, jumps, balance and travel. Our dance will be linked to our topic on Egypt and where we will structure a dance phrase and perform using a variety of techniques. In games we will be working on striking and fielding.

My Personal best words this term are:- Trust and Resourcefulness.

## PSHE

Our first topic is Living in the Wider World where we show concern for the communities in which we live and learn about being respectful to ourselves and others.

Our second topic is Keeping Safe. We will be learning about habits that help us and habits that don't and understanding that we have choices that we can make. We will also learn about road and water safety.

## Forest School

This enrichment area of our curriculum provides an opportunity for practical, outdoor learning to further develop teamwork and co-operation skills. All sessions are linked to our topics.

## Art & DT

Our Art and DT topics this term are full of creativity and exploration. We will begin by working on organic forms in sculpture, encouraging children to experiment with shape and texture. In the second half of the term, we will focus on developing painting skills and exploring patterns found in nature.

## Computing

Our first topic is coding. We will begin to read and explain flowcharts and use our programming skills. Our second topic is branching, where the children will learn the importance of YES/NO questioning when creating a database. Online safety is taught throughout our lessons.

## Music

This term, we will be listening to and describing recorded music, paying close attention to the variety of instruments, as well as changes in pitch and tempo. These activities will help children improve their listening skills while expanding their musical vocabulary. Music lessons are always full of fun and creativity!

