



# Year 3 Spring Newsletter 2024



Welcome back and Happy New Year! We have lots of exciting topics this term such as 'The Stone Age'. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Miss Allinson, Mrs Jones and Mrs Lankford

## English

Our literacy work in Year 3 is linked to our topics Stone Age and Rainforests. We will use these fascinating subjects as a basis for writing persuasive adverts, non-chronological reports, instructions and letters.

Handwriting and presentation is also a key area for improvement and we will be practising handwriting skills weekly.

Reading is a huge part of Year 3! Children should read every night for ten minutes and have their reading record signed. This could be their reading book, library book or a book they enjoy reading from home. We read in class every day (guided reading/class story) and encourage the children to talk about their books during book talk. The children are now responsible for changing their own books. Please can the children bring their reading books everyday as we read with children also.

During the Autumn term the children were introduced to Reading Plus, please could you continue to support this at home as part of our homework.

The children will be given weekly spellings to practise. The spellings will be put on Spelling Shed and Seesaw, please can you ensure your child is practises their spellings which will be tested on a Friday.

## 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.

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

## Maths

This term begins focusing on right angles. The children will learn what a right angle is and be able to identify them in our environment and investigate; draw polygons with right angles.

Securing mental maths skills — The children will be learning lots of techniques support and develop their arithmetic skills. They will add 2 and 3 digit numbers and rearrange sums

Column addition - Any numbers can be added together using an algorithm called 'column addition'. If any column sums to ten or greater, we must 'regroup' and numbers within each column should be added in the most efficient order.

Column Subtraction - One number can be subtracted from another using an algorithm called 'column subtraction'; the digits must be aligned correctly.

Statistics—Children will be collecting data and representing it in different ways, They will analyse the data in order to answer questions.

Times Tables - This term we will learn the 3 times table and relating division facts. Last term we also focused on our 2x, 4x and 8x. By the end of Y3, we expect the children to know confidently the following times tables:

(Y2 level): 10, 2, 5 (Y3 level): 3, 4 & 8 as both multiplication and division facts. Please encourage regular use of Timestable Rockstars at home.



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**Daily Checklist:** - Water bottles and reading books everyday. Monday– Wellies and waterproofs to change into for Forest School. Wednesday– PE Kit. Friday - Spelling Tests.

## Science

Our first topic is Rocks, Soils and Fossils, linked to our Stone Age topic. We will be comparing and grouping together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties. We will describe how fossils are formed..

Our second 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

Our very exciting topic is Stone Age, where we will look at the changes that occurred during the Stone Age through the Bronze and Iron Age.

Our next topic is Tropical rainforests where we learn about the layers of the rainforest, climate and the Equator. We also discover how vital the rainforests are to our planet

## French

We are very lucky to have a French Teacher deliver a lesson each Friday. Children practise each session by singing songs in French. Our topics during the spring term are Mon Corps and Les Animaux.

## 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 the rainforest 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.

## PHSCE

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 lovely stone age and rainforest topics give us lots of fantastic opportunities to use our art and design skills. We design our own stone age den, fossil cave paintings, rainforest scenes and collage printing. We will be using a range of tools and materials to create our own inspired pieces of art. We will also be looking at the work of different artists to inspire our work.

## 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

We are very lucky to have Mrs Taylor from Tees Valley Music to teach us music this term. This term we will be listening to and describing recorded music by listening to the variety of instruments included, listening to the pitch and tempo. We will be able to improve our listening skills alongside improving our musical vocabulary.

