19th April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 3,

Welcome back to the Summer Term. We’d like to share with you the learning planned for this term. We hope that this information will help you support your child over the coming weeks.

**English – Reading**

We will be learning in the following key areas:

* Compare works by the same author
* Read plays and dialogue and compare with prose
* Discuss similarities and differences in different genres
* Give opinions and justify using the text to support our answers
* Work out the meaning of words from the context and use replacement synonyms to show our understanding

This will be done through English lessons, guided reading sessions at school and through reading homework. You can help at home by reading every day and asking your child questions about what they are reading. Practise looking up unfamiliar words in a dictionary.

**English – Writing**

In writing it is expected that children should be using capital letters and full stops accurately and using appropriately sized cursive handwriting.

In our writing and spelling lessons we will:

* revise dialogue with inverted commas
* learn how to write a play script
* learn how to present information in a persuasive manner
* learn how to write an adventure story
* Spell common exception words, suffixes and prefixes
* Spell homophones and near homophones

You can help at home by helping your child learn the weekly list of spellings, practising for a few minutes daily using the look, say, cover, write and check method. Please encourage writing through a variety of activities including letters and postcards, lists, instructions and stories. Insist on correct use of capital letters and full stops.

You can also help your child develop their handwriting by practising letter combinations and high frequency words. Advice on positioning the body, hand and fingers for handwriting can be found at teachhandwriting.co.uk; they also provide examples for how to form letters correctly – look for the continuous cursive style.

**Maths**

This term we will look at these topics:

* Fractions including ordering and comparing fractions, equivalent fractions and adding and subtracting fractions
* Comparing measures including millimetres, centimetres, metres and using the correct equipment to measure in mm and cm accurately.
* Measurement including mass and capacity, length and perimeter
* Time including reading time on analogue and digital clocks and finding and using durations of time
* Revision of topics from previous terms

You can help at home by continuing to encourage regular practice of times tables (2x, 3x, 4x, 5x, 8x & 10x), number bonds for all numbers to 10, telling the time using digital and analogue clocks, measuring with a ruler and measuring mass and capacity in cooking and similar activities.

**Science:** We will be studying forces and magnets and the life cycle of plants. We will look at how different forces work including friction and magnetism. We will be growing some plants and studying the different stages from germination to seed production.

**History and Geography:** We will be starting with a local history topic on the Magna Carta. Later in the term we will learn how a volcano is formed, where they are located and what impact they can have on the people around them. Our school trip this term will be to the Natural History Museum where we will extend and enrich our learning on volcanoes.

**Art and Design Technology:** In DT, we will be learning to sew and will develop our skills using three different stitches. We will use these to design and make a money container. In Art we will learn about sculpture and produce a soap sculpture based on the work of Barbara Hepworth. In addition, we will work with clay to design and make a clay lantern. Alongside this we will continue to develop our observational drawings.

**Music:** We will be continuing to learn trombone with Miss Gray from Berkshire Maestros. We will be learning to read music and will learn a few more notes on the trombone. We will also be covering some basic elements of music theory.

**Computing:** Using the Purple Mash website we learn more staying safe when going online then we will move onto spreadsheets, branching databases, simulations and graphing.

**RE:** We will be learning about the Sikh religion with an enquiry focus considering the importance of sharing within the Sikh Community and what is the best way for a Sikh to show commitment to God? We will look at some of the important Sikh festivals such as Vaisakhi and Diwali. We will also look at the Guru Granth Sahib, the special book of the Sikhs.

**PE:** In the first half of the term we will develop our tennis, striking and fielding skills. In the second part of the term, we will focus on athletic skills and competition practice.

**French:** We will revise our topics on classroom instructions, colour and numbers alongside new areas. New learning will include identifying parts of the body, describing eyes and hair, recognising days of the week and giving basic character descriptions.

**PSHE:** We will start by looking at healthy minds and how to look after our mental health. We will then learn more about relationships including family and friends as well as strategies for staying safe. Later in the term we will learn how our bodies change as we grow up. Finally, we will focus on transition work in preparation for Year 4.

We will, as always, be keeping in touch via Class News.

Kind regards,

Helen Wakeman and Mrs Foster