



Year Three Spring Term Curriculum Letter January 2023

Dear Parents,

The children have had a busy few months embracing the challenges of the Year 3 curriculum and we are very proud of their hard work and positive engagement. We are also very appreciative of the support given at home to support the homework activities and it's great to be able to share these achievements with the children. Thank you.

We are looking forward to another busy and exciting term ahead where the children will embark on a journey back in time to develop their historical skills in their study of The Stone Age – Iron Age. They will explore how people lived and the impact of major developments on everyday life beyond this exciting period. In the second half of the term, the focus of learning will be on how the invention of plastic has impacted on the environment and the importance of 'Reduce, Re-use and Recycle'. Although these topics are essentially **History** and **Geography** based, learning will be linked to other areas of the curriculum enabling the children to embed learning and deepen their knowledge and understanding.

Curriculum coverage:

In **English** we will study traditional tales from around the world, features of non-fictional writing as well as poetry and research skills. We will focus our narrative/fictional writing around a key text encouraging the children to use their wonderful imagination and knowledge of descriptive vocabulary whilst exploring characters and settings. The lessons incorporate aspects of spelling, punctuation and grammar and time is set aside during the week for guided reading sessions to develop children's comprehension skills.

DEAR Time is a regular part of our week too where children 'Drop Everything and Read', encouraging them to enjoy reading and explore a range of chosen reading books and materials. They are also welcome to bring in a book from home to read during this time. In Year 3, we encourage children to become more independent in their approach to their learning, therefore the expectation is that children will continue to change their own reading books when they need to. We will also oversee the changing of books and guide them with their choices when needed.

In **Maths** the children work on objectives from the National Curriculum using the White Rose Maths scheme. The emphasis is on using a variety of approaches to solve problems and to increase accuracy and efficiency, as well as to be able to explain their thinking and processes. The focus of learning will be to continue to solve written calculations and number problems involving **multiplication** and **division**. Having a secure knowledge of multiplication facts (times tables) impacts positively on all aspects of Maths and this is an area you could continue supporting them with at home. In addition, **measuring length and perimeter** will be another focus of learning where children will learn how to measure accurately and use their developing mathematical vocabulary to make comparisons and explain their findings. Later in the term children will be developing their knowledge of **Fractions** and **measuring mass and capacity**. During the week children will continue to solve problems, be encouraged to show how their results were reached and explain their reasoning.

In **Science** we use a wide range of approaches to develop skills in general and will look specifically at applying these through studying and investigating the topic of **Magnets and Forces**. Later in the term their learning will focus on **Animals (including humans)**, **Food and Nutrition**. There will also be a focus on setting up and carrying out investigations and the importance of a 'fair' test.

Computing is used to support the wider curriculum through developing computer skills. Learning this term will focus on **E-Safety** and an introduction to **Coding**. Keeping themselves safe online is at the heart of learning and we strongly encourage parents to be extra vigilant when children are researching and using the internet at home. Thank you.

Our work to promote Personal, Social, Health, Cultural and Emotional (**PSHCE**) aspects of learning will focus on **Coping with Change** during the first part of the term and **Families and Relationships** later in the term. Circle Time, discussions and assembly sessions will also provide opportunities to develop understanding and embed learning.

Our **R.E.** work this term will focus on Christianity, specifically on places of worship, festivals and the significance of Easter. We will continue our links with Reverend Moore, as a follow-up from our church visit and his visit into school last term. Later in the term our learning will focus on Judaism.

In **Art** we will be linking our learning to our topics to help the children develop their sketching, observational drawing and using different medium. In **DT** their learning will involve designing and making a light structure using simple electrical components to make a circuit and light a bulb.

Children have 2 **P.E.** lessons per week. On Monday morning the lesson (Games Skills and Team Games) is led by a DFC coach and will be outdoors (weather permitting). The second Y3 PE lesson, which is currently on a Thursday afternoon, will focus on Dance & Movement. The timing of the second lesson is due to change later in the term and we will update you when this happens.

Music is taught by Mr Newton, a specialist teacher, who will continue to support the children's overarching topic work, through songs and compositions as well as exploring instruments.

Homework

We will continue to send Homework on Wednesday and this is expected to be completed and uploaded onto Class Dojo (if possible) by the following Tuesday. This is linked to current learning and will usually be a Maths or an English task. We can still receive work handed in after the date so please don't worry. We appreciate the time and support given to support learning at home and look forward to celebrating their excellent participation during the term. Thank you.

Reading - Although we provide daily reading sessions during the week, including 'Guided Reading' and 'Drop Everything and Read', we also expect that pupils read regularly at home (3 times a week). Each time your child reads to an adult or family member at home, please sign their Reading Record book as evidence of this. If the *Reading Record Book* could be handed once a week (ideally a Thursday) we can see how the reading is going and respond to your feedback and any questions you may have. The book will be returned the following day. Thank you.

Other information.

Children are encouraged to bring a healthy snack (for example, vegetables, piece of fruit or bread sticks) and water for Prime Time. The water bottle should have a sport style lid to minimise spillage if it should accidentally be knocked over.

We have noticed lately that some children have been bringing small toys or other 'special' items from home to show or share with their friends. They have been advised to keep them at home to avoid them getting lost or damaged. We will let you know if there is an item we would like them to bring in from home.

We look forward to another very productive term. If you need to contact us for whatever reason, please do not hesitate to get in touch via the school office or catch us at the end of the day. Appointments can be made if time is needed to discuss a matter.

Thank you very much for your continued support. It is very much appreciated.

Kind regards,

Ms. Oliver and Mr. Fox