

Year 3 Newsletter

Term 1

Welcome to Year 3! I hope you all had a wonderful, restful summer and that your children are all ready for this term. I am looking forward to getting to know them over the coming weeks.

In English, we are going to listen to the poem *The River* by Valerie Bloom before studying it and going on to write our own. This links with our Geography unit this term of Rivers. In our English lessons, we will discuss unfamiliar words and use a dictionary to find the meaning, explore the poet's choice of vocabulary and the use of rhyme throughout the poem and discussing how it helps the poem flow. We will learn the poem ready to perform it to an audience and will write our own river poems based on *The River*.

Our class reader is called *Protect the planet*, which the children voted for themselves. It looks like we have some budding eco warriors in our class!

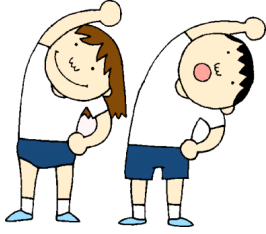


Spellings are taken from the National Curriculum. Children will be taught the spelling rule at the beginning of the week and have chance to practice them in class throughout the week. The children will be tested every Friday and will be given new spellings to take home. Please practice these at home to support your child.

This term, our Maths lessons will focus on place value and looking at numbers from 0 all the way to 1000! The children will be comparing and ordering numbers, looking at the hundreds, tens and ones to help them. They should be able to write numbers 0-1000 in numerals and words by the end of Year 3. After this, we will be doing addition and subtraction, and learning the column method to help us complete even bigger sums. We will continue to practice the times tables we already know (2x, 5x, 10x) and will begin to learn the 3x and 4x.

Our Science topic for the term is 'Animals including humans. We will look at the role of good nutrition and how to keep ourselves healthy with a balanced diet. We will also begin to look at the skeleton and how bones and muscles help us move.





This term, our PE lessons will be on a Tuesday morning. Each Tuesday, **the children should come to school in their PE kit, which they will stay in all day.** Please make sure that your child is wearing a suitable PE kit for the weather that day, such as a t-shirt, shorts and trainers for warm and sunny weather, or a tracksuit and trainers for colder weather. The children need to have a water bottle in school.

In Computing, we will be looking at how to use the internet. We will be looking at how to use a search engine to research and how to share web pages safely with one another. We will begin to understand why, and how, people communicate online and how to stay safe when doing so. The children will learn and understand why it is very important that we stay responsible online.



Our Geography lessons will focus on 'Rivers'.

The children will research and identify the features of a river and label these. They will learn how to use an Atlas and use it to locate the longest river in the world! The children will do a focus study on the River Nile, which will link with our topic next term of Ancient Egyptians. The children will then get the opportunity to study the local River Cole, which we will visit towards the end of the term.

In DT, we will be looking at the structure of pyramids and will design and make our own using nets. Our Music lessons this term will be taught by Mr Hartnell and this term's piece of music is called 'Let your spirit fly' from the Charanga scheme of work. We will have the opportunity to listen and comment on the music before making our own.

This term, we will also begin to learn Latin! This is new and exciting for all of us!

Our mascot for this term is the 'Responsible Robin'. The children will learn what it means to be responsible and get the chance to put themselves forward as a school councillor. In PSHE we will be looking at how to be responsible for our own learning behaviours. In RE, our big question this term is 'What does it mean to be a Christian in Britain today?' This will be taught by Mr Hartnell this term.

Reading

Reading is an important part of the curriculum and, as such, we believe that continuing to read with your child daily can improve their reading skills significantly. Therefore, we would appreciate it if you could read with your child as often as possible. This does not have to be your child reading to you, it could include sharing a book and discussing the content, as this helps tremendously with comprehension.

We will be changing to online reading records. This will be communicated separately.



Homework

Children will continue to receive the following homework weekly:

- Spellings
- Reading
- Times Tables (2x, 5x, 10x, 3x, 4x)

In addition to this, there will be optional homework that can be completed in relation to the work we are doing in school. This can be handed in at any time during the term. The following are a list of ideas for your child to choose from:

- In Geography we are learning about rivers. Can you use the skills we are learning in Computing to help you research the River Thames?
- Can you visit a local river and write down what you observe? You could draw and label the stretch of river.
- How quickly can you complete a three/four times table test? See if you can beat your score each time!
- Draw the setting from a book you are reading and write a setting description. Remember to include lots of adjectives so the reader can really imagine the scene. Think about your 5 senses.
- Can you find a poem to learn off by heart? It would be great to hear you recite it in front of the class. I wonder if you can find a riddle?
- The children seem really keen to look after our planet. Can you create a poster that we can put around the school reminding the other children how they can help protect the planet?
- Try to get outside for some exercise. Can you run, jump and travel in different ways? What happens to your heart rate?
- Read one page of a book. Close it and write the next part of the story without peeking. What might happen next?
- Can you draw and label the human body?

Remember, if at any time you have any concerns about your child, please feel free to contact the office to make an appointment to see me.

With best wishes,

Miss Halliwell