

Year 3 Newsletter

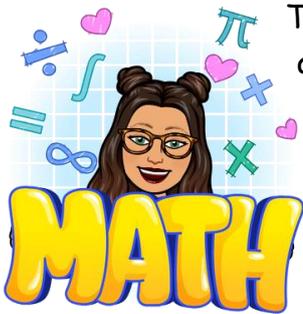
Term 3

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year. This term, we are continuing to immerse ourselves in lots of wonderful learning.

Firstly, in English, we are spending a few days on calligrams. We will look at what they are and how authors use them, especially in children's books. We will then go on to our Non-Fiction unit where we will be producing Fact Files on animals from the rainforest, linking to our work on Deforestation and the Amazon rainforest. The children will then learn how to use dialogue effectively within a narrative. This will be inspired by a silent film. I cannot wait to hear their ideas!



We are still trying to finish *The Christmasaurus* and *the Winter Witch* - nearly there!



This term, most of our focus in Maths is on multiplication and division and becoming really confident in our times tables. We are continuing to practice our 2, 5 and 10 times tables, and learning our 3, 4, and 8 times tables. They are very tricky, but practice makes perfect! Please continue to help your children at home. You can do this with songs and by using Times Table Rockstar - I have set a competition that runs all term! We will also be investigating angles and learning to tell the time in 5-minute intervals.

For the first two weeks of term, we are looking at North and South America in Geography. We will be learning which countries are on the continent of North America and will use technology to talk about the features and the terrain. We will then be looking at some famous landmarks, before sorting them into physical and human features. We will look at how the United States of America is made up of 50 states, and complete a challenge to name them with the help of an Atlas. Afterwards, we will do the same for South America, comparing it to North America. Finally, we are going to complete a mini project on the Amazon Rainforest and Deforestation.



In week 3, we will be spending our afternoons learning all about Word Processing on the computers. The children made some amazing posters last term!

This term, our PE lessons will continue to be on Tuesdays and so the children should come to school dressed in their kits. It is getting colder so please ensure full length tracksuit bottoms or leggings are worn.

Later in the term, we will be exploring why the Bible is important to Christians and will learn all about still life with an artist study on Cezanne. In Science, we will investigate Forces and Magnets. In PSHE, the focus is on 'Dreams and Goals'. This is such a lovely unit. As part of this, children will look at how they can stay motivated and show resilience, how they can work well in a team and the importance having a positive attitude. The school mascot this term is the Persistent Peacock.

Reading

Please make sure that your child brings their reading book to school every day. They read with an adult as often as possible, but this is not on a set day, so the children need to have their book with them. Bringing their book every day will also mean that they have plenty of opportunities to change their reading books regularly. Please ensure you are reading with your child and logging this on GoRead **at least 3 times a week**. Reading at home helps tremendously with reading, spelling and writing skills in class. Please see me if you need the log in details again.



Homework

Children will continue to receive the following homework weekly:

- Spellings - tested on a Friday
- Reading - read at least 3x a week
- Times Tables - these are set on Times table rock star.

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:

- Practice your times tables on TTRS
- Look at speech within a story - can you write your own short story where two characters talk to each other?
- Research a country in North or South America. Create a fact file. We will make these into a class book for the book corner.
- Grab a fridge magnet and explore what things are magnetic around your house.
- Write out your dreams and goals for the next year. Think of some New Years resolutions you can make for school and home.
- Write a book review about a book you have read at home.
- Try drawing your fruit bowl or some food items at home. Think about your lines and about shading to create tone.
- Use a computer to write a short autobiography.

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