



Tuesday 4th September 2018

Year 3 Curriculum Letter Autumn Term 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to Year 3, we hope you have had a lovely summer holiday!
As the children have now moved from Key Stage 1 into Key Stage 2, there are a few changes and we thought it would be useful to give you some key information.

General:

- Home time for children in the juniors is **3:20pm** rather than 3:15pm.
- During morning break, your child will have the opportunity to buy fruit and a drink and may bring tuck money in to buy these. Children will be responsible for their own money and 50p should be more than sufficient. **Please ensure money is brought to school in a wallet or purse to prevent it being lost!**

P.E.

- PE will take place on Thursday afternoons (weather permitting!) and children will require a PE kit in school every day, just in case we get extra opportunities to do P.E. This should include a white T-shirt, blue shorts, pumps and trainers and all earrings should be removed before school on these days to avoid loss or injury.

Homework and reading

- Spellings and homework will be set on a Friday and **must** be handed in to the class teacher by the **following Wednesday**. Spellings will also be tested on a Wednesday. Occasionally, we may set projects that relate to our topic or science, and these will replace the usual homework for a few weeks.
- Reading books must also be handed in on a Wednesday so that the class teacher can go through them with the children. We hope that the children will read **every** day at home and record comments in the records provided. We have found that this helps to accelerate their progress in reading and writing. Children are encouraged to read as much as possible in school and we would appreciate it if they could also be encouraged to read at home every night. Reading records will be checked on a weekly basis.

Over the autumn term, Year 3's topic will be all about 'Extreme Survival', which will cover foundation subject skills for Design Technology, Art, Geography and Computing and is a fun and exciting new topic for the children to learn about. Our first science topic that links to this is 'Animals including humans'.

Geography

In Geography, we'll be:

- Using maps, atlases, globes and digital computer mapping to locate countries and describe features
- Describe the similarities and differences between polar and desert climates
- Explain how the lives of people living in polar or desert climates differ to their own lives

Art

In Art, we'll be:

- Creating a desert collage, reflecting the colours and textures of the desert environment
- Experimenting creating mood with colour
- Mixing colours effectively

Design Technology (DT)

In DT, we'll be:

- Choosing suitable techniques to construct products
- Preparing ingredients hygienically using appropriate utensils

Computing

In Computing, we'll be:

- Researching Polar Bears and Penguins using search engines
- Collecting, analysing, evaluating and presenting data and information
- Creating a presentation of their findings

Science

In Science, we'll be:

- Identifying that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat
- Identifying that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement.

English

In English this half term, we will be focusing on reading and expanding the children's vocabulary. This will be done by looking at stories by the same author and information texts, which will have a cross-curricular link to our topic work; making it more meaningful for the children. These units of work will link directly to the children's reading and writing targets. We are a reading school and have found reading to have an invaluable impact on children's progress. We would greatly appreciate it if you also worked alongside us to encourage your child to read as much and as widely as possible.

Maths

In Maths we will be focusing on the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and how we can use both mental and written methods to solve real life problems. We will also concentrate on fractions and telling the time. Focus will also be given to the children's times table knowledge as this is a vital skill which will help them in many other areas of maths.

As part of the New Curriculum, children will be learning French as a modern foreign language on Wednesday afternoons and will also be going swimming later on in the year which we will give you more information about nearer the time.

All of the work we are going to do has been specifically written to help your child reach the learning goals. Children will be reading, writing, illustrating, working on their own and working in groups. We will be checking to see how well your child has learned through particular activities and by asking the children to explain their work, perhaps to you.

The British value that links to the work we will be doing this term is The Rule of Law, where children will be embedding school rules and routines for behaviour, playground rules and e-safety rules. Throughout the year British values will be taught throughout the school curriculum through PSHE, RE and other topics.

Dates for your diary

Year 3 workshop – Wednesday 19th September 2018

Parents' evening – Wednesday 10th October 2018

3D Class Assembly – Thursday 22nd November 2018

KS2 Carol Concert – Wednesday 18th December 2018

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact a member of the year 3 team, either before or after school, or via the school office.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Dhaliwal and Miss Coppin
The Year 3 team