

Year 3 Newsletter – Summer 1

Welcome

Welcome to Summer 1! In Year 3, we are really looking forward to this half term. Below is a summary of what the children will be learning about in each curriculum area.

Reading

During Summer 1, we will be continuing to develop our reading skills by exploring a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts. The children will have the opportunity for paired and independent reading, as well as engaging in whole-class discussions about the texts. We aim to focus on some more poetry this term; the children have been enjoying analysing language choices and poetic features.



As always, we encourage the children to be reading at home as often as possible. Please remember to return any borrowed reading books so these can be changed regularly.

Recommended reads:

The Accidental Prime Minister by Tom McLaughlin
The Nothing to See Here Hotel by Steven Butler
The Boy Who Lived with Dragons by Andy Shepherd

Writing

Our writing units this half term will be based around super-heroes, which will also incorporate elements of our Mountains and Volcanoes topic. The children will be learning to write for a range of purposes. For example, they will write both an information text and a film trailer voice-over. I think that the children will particularly enjoy our first writing unit, which is inspired by the infamous *Captain Underpants!*



Maths

We will begin the half term by finishing the mass and capacity unit, where we have been learning about equivalent mass/capacities. Then, we will return to fractions again, this term focusing on adding and subtracting fractions. The children enjoyed our first fractions unit, so we are excited for this one too. Finally, we will finish the half term with a unit about money. Here, we will focus on adding and subtracting money, as well as finding change.



In Year 3, we will be continuing our regular times table practice. The children thoroughly enjoy taking part in our Times Table Rockstar challenges. As always, the children are encouraged to log into Times Table Rockstars at home. Please do let me know if you require another copy of their login details.

Science

Our science topic for this half term is called 'How Does your Garden Grow?' This topic follows from our previous topic, expanding the children's knowledge about plants and life cycles. The children enjoyed planting their own sunflower seeds last half term, so we will be continuing to nurture these and track the changes that we observe over this half term. At home, the children would benefit from observing the ways in which their environment is changing as we approach the warmer months.



Computing

In computing, we will be progressing onto a topic about simulations. The children will learn about the purpose of simulations, evaluating their strengths and weaknesses. They will also have the chance to recognise patterns within simulations, make predictions using these patterns and then test them.



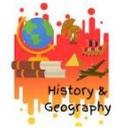
Art & Design/Design & Technology

We will be running an exciting D&T project this half term. The children will learn about the mechanics of pneumatics, exploring the ways in which air can create movement. They will then design, make and evaluate their very own moving monster using pneumatic mechanics.



Geography/History

This half term, our geography topic is titled 'Mountains and Volcanoes'. We will be learning about the structure of our Earth, how mountains are formed and how these differ to volcanoes. The class will also explore settlements around mountains and volcanoes. It is a really exciting topic which sparks a lot of interest from the children.



Music

This half term, we will continue to follow the Charanga scheme for music. Our song focus is called 'Bringing us Together'. The children will learn about how this piece was composed, before learning how to perform it themselves. Year 3 really enjoy music lessons and are continuing to develop their confidence in performing musical pieces.



PE

As you are aware, this half term, Year 3 will be having swimming lessons as part of our PE curriculum. We are so excited to visit the swimming pool and develop the children's confidence in the water. We will also continue to have our Wednesday afternoon PE slot. Our PE unit will be athletics based. We will be building our skills in the standing long jump, 5 strides and speed jumping.



PSHE

Our weekly PSHE sessions follow the Jigsaw curriculum. Our next unit is called 'Relationships'. During this unit, the children will discuss roles within the family, the importance of friendship, and what it means to be a global citizen. These lessons are a brilliant way to develop the children's collaboration and communication skills.



RE

Our RE lessons will have the theme of 'sharing and community'. Through this, we will learn about the Sikhism religion. Our learning will be built up so that the children can discuss and answer our key question: Do Sikhs think it is important to share?



Enrichment

As part of our enrichment for this half term, the children will be taking part in an immersion afternoon. This will involve a deep enquiry into mountains and volcanoes, which is our topic for this half term.



Homework Project

Here are some activities that link to our Geography and Science topics. If your child completes one, please bring it in – we would love to see it!



- Create a plant diary for your sunflower seed – do you remember its life cycle?
- Draw and label the features of a mountain.
- Create a poster titled 'How to Survive up Mount Everest.'



Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities



Times Tables Rockstars



Spelling Shed



Rewards

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



Class information

Class Teacher: Miss Church

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Limehouse and Miss Porch

Please remember to name your child's school jumper or cardigan.

We request that all children bring a named water bottle to school every day.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.

Dates for the diary!

Monday 17th April – school reopens to children.

Monday 1st May - Bank Holiday (school closed).

Monday 8th May - Bank Holiday (school closed).

Friday 26th May – school closes for half term break.

