



How to Help at Home



- Reading - your child should be reading at least 15 minutes every night. Please ensure your child's reading diary is signed at least three times throughout the week, one of them by an adult who has heard your child read. Feel free to read more times though and it doesn't just have to be the school reading book! We love to read!
- Spellings and times tables will be given out for a quiz each Monday.
- Water bottles - your child should have a bottle in on Mondays and taken home to be washed on Fridays. Cups are provided if your child has forgotten their bottle but preferably should have a bottle of their own.
- Creative homework - this has been given out for this half term and the progress check dates are on the sheet. Remember - you need to earn at least 15 points in a half term. We love to see you achieving more!
- No jewellery except a watch. Earrings must be taken out before school to avoid any injuries. Only black shoes or boots are to be worn.
- PE kit - should be in school every day (just in case we need to change our timetable for any reason). PE days will usually be Tuesdays and Fridays.
- If you have access to the internet, your child has their individual login details for Times Table Rockstars and it would be very beneficial if they could practise their times tables at home as well as school.



Dates for the Diary



Tuesday 7th January - Return to school

Wednesday 5th February - Valentines Disco

Tuesday 11th February - Parent Consultations

Wednesday 12th February - Parent Consultations

Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February - Half Term

Monday 24th February - Return to school

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Friday 13th March - Sports Relief

Friday 3rd April - End of Term.

Monday 6th April - Friday 17th April Easter Holidays

Monday 20th April - back to school

Curriculum Overview



Year 3



Spring Term



If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Cowan, Mrs McLean, Mrs Donaldson or Mrs Rippon.



Welcome



Happy New Year! We are looking forward to another fun-filled term in Year 3 and have loved hearing about the children's Christmas breaks. As always, please don't hesitate to catch a member of the Year 3 team if you have any questions!



English Overview



To start off the term, we will be investigating folktales and the conventions that these follow in order to write our own. We will also look at using a video as a stimulus to write a diary entry about an inventor. Within this unit, we will identify the key features of a diary entry, generate emotive language and use drama to develop our ideas. Following on from this, the children will create their own invention complete with full instructions using adverbs of time to order the steps. We will also be looking at creating a play script; becoming familiar with the conventions of this genre and then writing our own. This is a great opportunity in the lead up to our own production before the Easter holidays. The teaching of grammar will continue to be covered through the above units, whereas spelling and handwriting will be taught discretely.



Maths Overview



In Maths, we will continue to develop our knowledge of multiplication and division, learning how to use formal written methods to multiply a two-digit number by a single digit and also written methods for division. When exploring measurement, we will be learning to measure and compare length using standard units of measurement, including measuring the perimeter of shapes. We will also be converting between pounds and pence, as well as adding and subtracting amounts of money to give change. In addition to this, children will explore charts and graphs and use the data provided to answer and ask questions. Children will also gain a deeper understanding of fractions; this will include finding fractions of shapes, objects and amounts. Across all aspects of Maths, the children will continue to develop their reasoning and problem-solving skills.



Science Overview



This term, we will learn about living things. To start with we will focus on animals and what they need to be healthy. After half term, we will find out about how plants grow and the key processes of its life cycle. Throughout both units, we will continue to build our scientific skills by making predictions, completing investigations, collecting evidence and reporting findings.



Our Curriculum



RE: We will be building on our existing knowledge of Christianity and furthering our knowledge of the importance of significant stories for Christians linked to the question, Why is Easter important to Christians?

History/Geography: In History, we will be learning about The Stone Age. Through a wide range of activities, we are going to develop our sense of chronology and have an understanding of what prehistory is. Using a variety of sources, including the internet, we will explore what life was like from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. This will include what people ate, their homes and developments during this period. Our work in Geography will be based around our school and developing the skills of drawing maps and identifying the main geographical features. We will be using a key and coordinates to create our own maps as well as undertaking environmental and weather surveys of the school grounds.

Art / Music / DT: In Art, we will be looking at sculpture and its place in our society. We will be learning about current sculptures in our local area and use these as a basis for designing our very own. To create our pieces we will be using a variety of media including clay and papier mache. Our design and technology work will be around designing and making a pencil case, with a focus on sewing. For music this term, the children will be exploring beat, pitch, melody and phrase as well as learning to play the ukulele with a specialist from Gateshead Schools' Music Service.

Computing: This term we will be learning how to design programs using a character, a car and an animal, giving each a specific action to perform using new programming knowledge. We will also debug our programs if we find any problems and include variables.

PE: This term, we will continue to develop our throwing, catching and traveling skills linked to rugby as well as the 'invasion' aspect of this sport. We will be developing our understanding of motifs in dance in order to create dance phrases to perform to the rest of the class. This is linked to a subject familiar to us - the Ancient Egyptians!



Out and About



Linked to our Art work this term, we are going to be visiting The Shipley Art Gallery where we will 'create with clay' and explore sculptures along the road in Saltwell Park.