



Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all and welcome back. I am looking forward to an exciting Spring term, with a proposed visit to Hatfield House and a trip to the River Chess. Here are the topics we are covering this term and ways in which you can help at home.

Literacy

Our focus is **Poetry** (Language Play), **Narrative** (Adventure and Mystery and Dialogue and Plays), **Non-fiction** (writing instructions). The children will be creating their own set of instructions, which they will video and improve over time. Please take a moment to look at the way instructions are set out, for example when making a Lego model or if you are baking with your child. Children will benefit from reading a range of different adventure stories both independently or sharing them with you; Beast Quest, Captain Underpants, Harry Potter, Greek myths, Mulan.

Numeracy

This term children will be rounding 2 and 3 digit numbers and finding facts for division and multiplication of x2, x3, x4, x5, x6, x10. They will also consolidate their skills of adding 2 and 3 digit numbers, partitioning numbers, solving number patterns and word problems. Fractions, telling digital time and analogue time to the nearest 5 minutes, rounding remainders will also be covered. Children should already be able to recall their 2,5,10 times tables but please continue to practise other tables with them. Making the links with doubling or halving would be helpful revision. Remember learning should be fun, so if you have any problems let me know.

Science

Our two areas of learning about will be **Characteristics of Materials and Rocks and Soils**. Whilst exploring materials children will identify and describe properties of different materials and know that some but not all materials are suitable for making a particular object. Children will test a range of materials for absorbency; explore different materials to see that they are made from different things and that materials can be man made or natural. Children will explore and identify rocks and soils, name their characteristics, recognise that some rocks are permeable and some are not and be able to compare and name different rocks.

ICT

Children will learn about Databases and how to store and retrieve information on them. They will create their own database as part of an integrated activity. During the second half of the term we will be reviewing and applying a unit from Year 2, collecting and finding information, which will be linked to our Tudor topic.

RE

The focuses for our studies will be the religions of Christianity and Islam. We will be learning about the life of Jesus through stories about him, his life in action and through the events of Lent and Easter.

Geography

Geography will be taught in the 2nd half of the Spring term. We will complete our unit on Rivers, with a field trip to the River Chess where children will be able to see features of a river for themselves.

History/ Art/DT

We are all very excited about our themed learning this half term which is the **Tudors**. A trip to Hatfield House during the second half of the term will ensure that the children receive a "real experience" about life during the Tudor period. The children will be learning about Henry VIII, his wives and the relevance of his first divorce to British history. The history is also linked to our Art and DT, where the children will be recreating art from the Tudor period. A separate DT unit will also be completed which focuses on specific DT skills, making pop-ups, levers, pivots and a moving story book.

PE

Lessons will include **Dance, gym and invasion games**. Please ensure children have dark blue/black tracksuit trousers, jumper and trainers in addition to their PE kit as games will take place outside during the Spring term. It is important that all children participate in all PE sessions. To make them more comfortable please ensure that they have they correct kit for the weather, tracksuit bottoms are a must during the winter months. Please check that all PE kit is named visibly as pen often washes off.

PSHCE

Units covered will concentrate on: New Beginnings; Getting on and Falling Out and Saying No to Bullying. The focus is on children being aware of situations that make them feel uncomfortable and as a class, finding ways of resolving these issues. Children are encouraged to discuss their feelings in a safe and secure setting, where all opinions are listened to and valued.

Music

Lessons will follow the Music Express scheme and include exploring rhythmic patterns and arrangements with pentatonic scales.

Any help you could give your child researching these topics would be most appreciated and we welcome any resources into the classroom to share.

My weekly PPA cover will continue to be covered by Mrs Haacke. Please do not hesitate to come in and see myself or Mrs Haacke with any queries or concerns that you may have. You could also indicate any worries on a note inside the children's homework diaries and we can contact you at a mutually convenient time.

If your child wishes they may continue to bring in a pencil case, which can be left in school. Children only need a writing pencil (HB), coloured pencils, a sharpener with a lid and a rubber. Please can you ensure all contents are named. The children do not need any other equipment.

Here is a list of homework and when it is sent out. Other topic related homework may be set, details of which will be in your child's homework diary. Please ensure that you check your child's homework diary/reading record every day. I would also be very grateful if you could help your child learn their weekly spellings and practise their mental maths skills and times tables 2,3,4,5 and 10. Please note that homework that is not handed in on the correct day will not be marked as specific time is allocated to do this.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•New spellings will be given and previous weeks spellings tested.•Literacy homework to be returned.•Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Reading•Learn spellings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Literacy homework given•Learn spellings•Reading•Maths homework to be returned.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Learn spellings•Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Learn spellings•Reading•Maths homework given

Yours sincerely

Mrs O'Neill
Year 3 Teacher