

Autumn 1

Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter



First of all, we would like to welcome you and your child to the Junior School! This is a big step up and it can be daunting for many children (and parents) but the children have settled in brilliantly so far. There have been tears at times, but we hope that we have been able to answer your initial questions and problems and that you feel your child is enjoying their new school. If you ever have any questions, please come and speak to your child's teacher.

Writing

We have started the term by reading *The Tunnel* and investigating the settings of the story. We looked at the dark, damp tunnel and the forest that Rose entered. Next, we have looked at *Evie and the Wild Wood* to build on the description of forests and woodland settings. The main focus is on building children's confidence and vocabulary so that they are able to write using a variety of different sentences to make their writing engaging to the reader.

Reading

One of the best ways to help your child to become a fantastic writer is to encourage them to read as much as they can. This helps to develop their vocabulary and their imagination, which will then help their writing. We ask that you read with your child at least 3-4 times per week and discuss the texts that they are reading too. We will be running a Reading workshop in October to give some useful hints and tips on reading with your child.

Science

In Science, we have been investigating food groups and thinking about the food that we eat. The children will be completing food diaries to see if they are eating a balanced meal and looking at ways in which we can ensure we are eating the right sorts of food. We will look at the benefits and effects of different types of food on our bodies. This will link to the animals in our stories as we will be investigating their diets too.

Maths

The start of the year has focused very much on Number and Place Value—asking what is this number worth? What does this digit represent? We have begun to look at 3-digit numbers and the children have been learning to read, write and compare these numbers. As the half term progresses, we will be investigating how to add and subtract 3-digit numbers too.

We will soon be looking at times tables and ensuring that the children have a grasp of their multiplication facts. Children in year 3 should know all of their 2/3/4/5/8/10x tables so we would appreciate help with this at home if you can.

Another way to help at home is to teach your child to tell the time. You could also discuss time with them e.g. How many minutes until dinner? We are going out in 20 minutes, what time will that be?

We will be holding some parent workshops to show you the ways in which we teach Maths later in the term.

Tanzania

Each class sponsors a child in Tanzania through the Grass Roots project. Throughout the year, children across the school will often hold fundraising events to raise money for their child. If you ever have any loose change that you wish to donate, please pass it to your child and we can add it to our class total. This can then be used to buy additional gifts such as food parcels or mosquito nets. We will be talking to your children about the Tanzania project later in the term.

P.E.

Dolphins and Owls will have PE on a Friday and Chameleons will be on Mondays. Children should bring a change of clothing and should not be wearing ear-rings or any other form of jewellery.

Spellings

Each week your child will bring home a selection of spellings to learn. We would ask that you help your child with these if possible. If you have any questions, please come and speak to a member of the Year 3 team.