

Year 3: Half Term Curriculum & Home-Learning Letter

Autumn 1st Half Term: September 2019



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a fun-filled and restful summer break.

I want to begin this newsletter by saying how pleased I am to be taking Year 3! We had a wonderful year 2 where all the children worked hard and made extremely pleasing progress. I hope the children are looking forward to a productive and challenging year ahead, full of new learning and experiences. May I also take this opportunity to say a huge thankyou to all the children, parents and carers for your kind words and generous gifts at the end of last term, all were very much appreciated.

So on to Year 3... we will be starting the year with two fascinating topics. In History we will be finding out about The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain. The children will begin by thinking about chronology, seeing where the Roman era fits on a timeline. We will explore why and how the Romans invaded and what life was like from different perspectives. The children will be investigating and researching, looking for evidence of what has been left behind. As part of our topic we will look at Roman sculpture and we will be linking our art and design sessions to create some roman artefacts. We also look forward to an exciting Roman linked trip to St Alban's Cathedral, more details to follow shortly. For our second key topic this half term, the children will be thinking about 'Our Amazing Bodies'. Mr Reddie will be working with the children on a Thursday afternoon, consolidating their science knowledge from Y2 and moving on to look at what our bodies need, why we have a skeleton and how muscles help us move.

In English, we will start the term focusing on the classic Roald Dahl text "George's Marvellous Medicine". Together, we will read, discuss and share ideas about this book. The children will be creating character profiles, developing their use of descriptive language and conjunctions, to vary and extend sentences. The children will also be creating some instructional texts of their own and writing diary entries from the perspective of characters in the book. The children will also be practising their reading, spellings, grammar and handwriting, on a weekly basis.

This half term in Maths, we will be covering a number of maths areas including; consolidation of bonds to 10, 20 and 100; partitioning, addition and subtraction of 2 and 3 digit numbers; reading dates and calendars, continuing analogue and digital time to 5 minutes and rounding numbers. The children will also be having weekly arithmetic and timestables sessions. In Year 3 we will consolidate multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables, moving on to our Year 3 focus, which is to recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

In RE the children will be looking at the creation story, discussing what is wonderful about our world, considering the impact each person has on this world and how we can be good stewards by caring for the world around us. The children will be looking at the Ten Commandments and making connections to different parables. The children will make links to their own lives and experiences, bringing this unit to life through reading, writing, drama, song and creative arts.

In Computing, we will be thinking about E. Safety. Children will be discussing the importance of our school E-Safety rules and thinking about their own on-line behaviour. We will explore the term 'cyber bullying' and we will be considering the benefits of technology in today's society alongside strategies for staying safe when using technology. The children will look at email communication as well as other forms of electronic communication.

The children will continue to receive a coached PE session each week, this will take place on a Tuesday afternoon, please ensure children have a suitable kit in school everyday (for indoor and outdoor use). Can we remind parents and carers that children are encouraged to wear plimsolls for indoor use and trainers for outdoor PE sessions. Children may wear shorts or tracksuit bottoms (please see Mrs Stevenson in the office, if you have any uniform queries / questions). It is helpful if children keep PE socks in their bags (if wearing tights to school) and for children with long hair to have a spare hairband to tie long hair back for PE sessions.

After welcoming Alec (the new rector) last half term, we are pleased to say that our weekly church visits will be resuming, these will now be on a Thursday morning. We would very much welcome and appreciate parent helpers to escort the class to church.

Home learning for this half term is as follows:

- Home-learning folders and spellings will be sent home on **Fridays** and are to be handed in on the following **Wednesday**. Please note, spelling tests will take place every Wednesday. Please ensure children complete all home learning and regularly practise their spellings and times tables.



If you have any questions, concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to pop in and speak to one of the Year 3 learning team or drop us a note.

Mrs Jennifer Harris

Date: 3rd September 2019