

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2017



YEAR 3



Welcome back after the Easter break! Don't forget to visit our website, to receive all our latest updates. Here is a summary of the curriculum we follow in Year 3 in the Summer Term.

Mrs S Kinsella

Literacy

As part of their spelling and vocabulary work, the children will continue to demonstrate their ability to use dictionaries and thesauruses independently. This will enable them to use a wider range of vocabulary in their written and oral work.

In **Spelling**, they will closely focus on learning the expected curriculum spellings for year 3, which will include more 'tricky words'. They will also learn words which have a different spelling to their sound for example 'gym' and 'young'. They will also understand how to use the possessive apostrophe correctly with plural words. Spelling lists are sent home on a Monday and the spelling test is held the following Monday. Please try to support your child by helping them to learn their spellings thoroughly.

The children will use all tenses of verbs — past, present and future, and will be expected to use them accurately in their writing.

In **handwriting**, all children are expected to use a

cursive script in their written work, using the correct letter formations.

In **grammar and punctuation** study, the children will continue to extend their use of the tools of punctuation in both reading and writing. They will be expected to use a wide range of punctuation accurately, including capital letters, full stops, question marks, exclamation marks, commas, ellipses, apostrophes, inverted commas for speech and paragraphs. They will use the correct grammatical vocabulary for types of words such as noun, verb, adjective, conjunction, prepositions, clause, adverb and pronoun.

In **fiction composition** the children identify new vocabulary in texts finding synonyms to support their writing. They will continue to plan, and draft their work. They will refine their editing skills to improve their spelling and punctuation. They will study, language play, and use high quality texts for story writing.

In **non-fiction composition** the children will read and write about diaries, reports and explanations.



As the Literacy lessons focus on both reading and writing, the teachers will be hearing the children read in Guided Reading sessions. These will focus on teaching aspects of reading and comprehension, not just listening to them read. As a consequence, it is of the utmost importance that you continue to follow up this type of reading practice at home for 10 to 15 minutes each night, using the home reading books. Please sign the reading diary to show this has been completed. The children need questioning on the content of their texts and unfamiliar vocabulary should be explained. Children who are reading 'free readers' are expected to read independently, but would still benefit from being listened to by an adult at home two or three times a week. It is important that they complete a book review to support comprehension and make opinions about the story.



The children`s targets this term will be:

1. To read and understand increasingly more complex texts, showing understanding through discussion and written answers.
2. To continue to improve the quality of their written work by producing pieces of independent writing which demonstrate their understanding of the elements of spelling, punctuation and grammar studied this year.
3. To use a cursive script for all relevant work.

Glossary of Terms

Noun– a word used to name people, places, things, feelings or ideas.

Verbs - words to show actions or states of being or having.

Adjectives – words which enhance or change the meaning of a noun or a pronoun.

Adverbs - words that add information, usually to a verb, and can tell how, when or where something happens.

An adverb can modify any word except a noun or a pronoun.

Conjunction—a joining word which can be used to join words, phrases or sentences.

Pronoun—a word substituted for a noun, such as they, it, me.

Thesaurus – a reference text which groups words by meaning.

Preposition - a word used that is used with a noun, pronoun, or noun phrase to show direction, location, or time.

Clause - forms part of a sentence that contains a verb.



In Numeracy, oral and mental work will continue to feature strongly in every lesson. The children will be building on the work covered in the preceding two terms. They will continue to work on number structure to 1000. This will include using all four mathematical operations.



Our 'Big Maths' strategy is the start of every lesson (approx. 20mins). This involves reinforcing basic number facts the children need throughout their school life.

This term our 'Learn Its' are based on the 8 times table. These facts are practised each lesson and every Friday the class complete the 'Beat That Challenge' — a timed test.

The Big Maths strategy is centred on an understanding of Maths, both written, practical and oral.

The children will extend their understanding of **place value** to decimal numbers. They will use informal paper and pencil methods to explain their working. They will continue to consolidate their mental understanding. They will also use column methods of written addition and subtraction. They will find multiples of numbers and remainders after division. They will compare and estimate

fractions. They will continue to develop their problem solving skills with maths investigations and be able to explain their methods.

In **Shape, Space and Measures** they will look at volume and capacity and read scales. They will learn about horizontal, vertical and parallel lines and learn to describe and recognise 3D shapes. They will continue to practise reading analogue and digital times, including using am and pm. They will also recognise equivalent fractions and learn how to add simple fractions.



In **Data Handling**, they will interpret and present data using bar charts, pictograms and tables, and they will solve word problems based on the data.

Homework

Homework will be sent to consolidate or extend topics covered in class.

The children may also be asked to bring something into school.

Homework may also involve a choice of tasks to complete or a small project or presentation. It is advisable to complete at least one piece per week. The task may involve some research. Please support your child with their homework and encourage them to work independently.

This term in **History** the children will be studying the lives of the Ancient Egyptians. They will look at pharaohs, pyramids, lifestyles and Tutankhamun.



In **ICT** the children will be 'understanding instructions' and 'making things happen' by using programming to design patterns or to follow a course of actions.

They will also collect data and use databases to sort their information and answer questions about it.



In **Science** the children will be working on two new topics. In Rocks and Soils, they will find out which are man-made or naturally occurring; they will compare different samples and will group and classify them according to their characteristics, and they will find out what is under the Earth.

The children will also learn 'How to keep plants healthy'. They will grow, and be responsible for, the health of a plant. They will experiment to find out what makes a plant grow healthily and find out what humans use plants for. They will also care for the plants growing outside in their vegetable plot.



In **Design and Technology** the children will be looking at Healthy Snacks and will do some cooking.

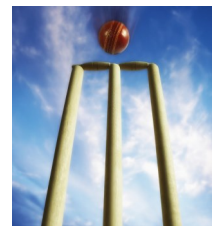
In **Music** the children will continue to play their recorders, learning more about notation in preparation for brass tuition in Year 4. They will also prepare the summer show.

Art will be linked to our topic work and we will use different media to create masks. They will also continue to practise their sketching and drawing skills and refine their ideas about the use of colour in their work.

In **French** the children will learn about "Les animaux," looking at pets. They will continue to hold short conversations and to extend their word knowledge by singing songs in French.

In **PE** the children will play cricket and invasion games with the school PE coach. They will also have the opportunity to play rounders and simple tennis as well as athletic activities prior to our Sports Day.

PE days this term are Monday and Tuesday. It is important that your child has the correct PE kit in school and suitable footwear which fits correctly. This is for health and safety reasons.



The topic in **Geography**, will be 'Investigating countries and cities of the United Kingdom'. The children will look at our country in more detail and learn some fascinating facts about the UK.



In **RE** the children will study aspects of the Hindu religion.

