



Welcome to the Year 3 Summer Newsletter

We hope that you all had the chance to relax over the Easter holidays! It seems only moments ago that your child started Year 3 but here we are hurtling towards the summer holidays.

English: Reading

Guided reading continues as follows:

- Guided reading group once a week
- Comprehension tasks based on their reading
- Lots of discussion and talk about the book we are reading.

Reading is so important across the curriculum. Please continue to read as often as possible at home. It really does make a difference!

Our class stories are 'Cliffhanger' by Jacqueline Wilson and 'The Boy At The Back Of the Class' by Onjali Q Rauf. If your child has a copy of either of these they can bring them in and read along with me. We will also enjoy some of Michael Rosen's hilarious poetry.

Art

Our art will be linked to our science topic; Plants and our history topic; The Romans

- Drawing, colouring and painting fruits and vegetables
- Roman soldiers and shields
- Mosaics
- Environmental art based on the work of Andy Goldsworthy

English: Writing

We will start the term with some focused grammar work and learn how to use direct speech. We will then use this in our narrative writing based on adventure stories and linked to our class text 'Cliffhanger'. Our poetry will be based upon Michael Rosen's free verse. This is full of humour and the children really enjoy it. We will also produce a range of non-fiction writing linked to our work on both the Romans and plants.

Key skills we are focusing on are:

- checking and improving punctuation and spelling
- using a range of adjectives, adverbs and conjunctions to improve the quality of every sentence
- creating sentences which are interesting and full of ambitious vocabulary
- redrafting single sentences
- using speech marks
- writing in paragraphs

PE

Swimming will continue throughout the summer term on a Monday morning. Mr Wilce will teach our regular PE slot on a Wednesday, focusing on cricket and then athletics. He will be developing and improving techniques for running, jumping and throwing and catching. During Summer 1 we will have an additional dance lesson on a Tuesday.

English: Spelling

In our weekly spelling lessons we will explore, discuss, learn and practise Year 3 spelling patterns. Our spelling tests take place on Fridays. Remember to find 3 more words that follow that same spelling pattern. Your child will be tested on these in addition to the 5 words given.

Science

Our first topic is Plants. We will learn about:

- the purpose of the different parts of a plant (roots, stems, flowers)
- how water is transported through plants
- the life cycle of flowering plants including pollination, seed formation and dispersal
- the conditions that plants need for healthy growth.

To enhance our learning in this topic we have planned an amazing day at Harlow Carr RHS Gardens on Thursday 22nd June. Details to follow.

Our second topic is 'Light'. We will discover:

- how we need light to see
- different sources of light
- how to protect ourselves in the sun
- how shadows are formed
- how shadows change

Maths

Fractions

We will be using lots of practical equipment and images to really get to grips with this concept. We will focus on:

- Understanding the relationship between the whole and the parts
- Understanding what the denominator and the numerator are in order to understand what a fraction represents.
- Finding unit and non - unit fractions
- Adding and subtracting simple fractions
- Understanding and counting in tenths
- Identifying equivalent fractions
- Comparing and ordering fractions

Geometry

- Identify, draw and make 2D and 3D shapes
- Recognise properties of 2D and 3D shapes
- Recognise shapes in different orientations
- Identify right angles and obtuse and acute angles.
- Identify horizontal, vertical, parallel and perpendicular lines

Measurement

- Reading time to 1 minute intervals
- Work out durations of time
- Measure and compare lengths, (m, cm, mm) mass (kg, g) and volume and capacity (l, ml)
- Measure the perimeter of shapes

DT

The children will learn about levers and linkages to create a lovely moving picture linked to our work on plants. By the end of the unit we should have a swarm of busy insects collecting pollen from some beautiful flower gardens.

History

It is all about the Romans after half term. We will start by finding out about the invasion and how the life for the Celts was disrupted. We will discover what life was like in the Roman army. We will also learn about the spread of the Roman Empire and the legacy of the Romans including their straight roads. On Tuesday 4th July we will welcome a Roman soldier into our classroom to teach us all about the gruesome and gory details of battle tactics and just why the Roman army was the best in the world. The children absolutely love this visit and get the chance to see lots of weapons and armour. Details to follow.

Music

In this unit we will be learning about how music makes a difference to us. We will be looking at musical styles and grouping pieces of music based on their characteristics and qualities.

RE

This term we will think about what spirituality means, how it is expressed through the arts and is central to many faiths. We will also learn about different aspects of the Jewish faith.

PHSCE

Celebrating differences - We will explore things that can make people different and how that might make them feel. We also explore feelings associated with belonging and community.
Tobacco is a drug - We will be learning that drugs, including medicines can be harmful and about the effects and risks of smoking.

We will be working hard to make sure that your child is prepared and excited for their move into Year 4. They will visit their new classrooms and enjoy meeting their new teachers.

ICT

Programming

We will develop our programming skills by completing a variety of tasks using SCRATCH. The children thoroughly enjoy using this crazy cartoon cat. We will learn about how to alter and debug the algorithms that we have created to solve problems.

French

In French we will be learning the names of different fruits and expressing simple opinions. I like... and I don't like.....