



Year 3 Newsletter: Autumn Term 1

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to Year 3! We hope the children had a lovely summer break – we've been delighted to see that the children have come back ready to learn and eager to do well. We have a busy and exciting half-term planned.

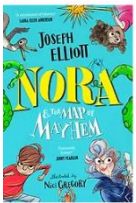
For your diaries:

Inset day- Thursday 12th September- SCHOOL CLOSED

Festival of Words at Freedom Church – Friday 27th September

Zoo trip- Thursday 3rd October

Half term – Monday 27 October to Friday 31 October



Trips:

As part of the Jersey Festival of Words, we are very excited to be able to go and watch Joseph Elliott reading from Nora and the Map of Mayhem. We are looking for 3 parents in total, to accompany this trip. Leaving school at 11:30 and returning at 1:30pm.

As part of our topic, we will be visiting the zoo Thursday 3rd October from 9:30-2pm.

Please contact your class teacher if you can help on these trips. Thank you, your help is very much appreciated.

Our Learning this half term:

Our topic to start the year is 'Rainforests', an exciting unit of learning which has a scientific, investigative focus. We will research a variety of creatures, grouping and classifying them according to their characteristics and diet. We will learn about how vertebrates, including humans, have skeletons, what these are for, and how they might be different amongst different animals. We will learn about how animals, including humans, need a balanced diet to remain healthy and how this may differ for animals in the wild in comparison to those who are kept as pets. We will then learn about the nutrition of plants and how water is carried through them.



In art, we will look closely at international artist, Mark Quinn and using inspiration from his floral scenes and from local artist Christine Witham, we will create some beautiful textile

flowers. Christine will be joining us in school to help us bring our designs to life. As artists and designers, we will be learning a range of textile skills including simple stitching and needle felting in order to create some beautiful plant-based textile art.

In English, we will be exploring two texts this half term. The first is 'The Tin Forest' during which children create descriptions of settings and make comparisons between the two main settings in the story. Our second text is a non-fiction book called 'There's an Orangutang in my Bedroom'. The children will write an explanation about palm oil production destroying orangutan habitats and learn how to write persuasively.

As readers, we will be taking part in either Phonic based Read Write Inc sessions or guided reading groups which continue to build on fluency, expression and familiarity with a wide range of texts. Once they have been issued, please make sure that pupils have their reading books in every day. We have not sent home a reading record as we are looking into for Key Stage 2 children to record their reading on an app- hopefully coming soon.

In maths, our initial focus is on place value of numbers, before moving on to learning how to add and subtract, and how we can use the inverse operation to check the accuracy of our calculations. In every lesson this involves solving word problems, thus providing a 'real world' context to our learning. The concrete / pictorial / abstract philosophy which underpins our maths teaching and learning is key, with children initially using objects to make models before representing this pictorially. Then children will show their understanding by writing equations. Throughout the process we will be asking children to describe what they are doing; explain how they are doing it and prove that they are accurate by using maths apparatus. Children will continue to support each other in their maths learning by working alongside their maths partner.

In PSHE, we will start the year looking at how we get along with each other, recognising our worth and identifying positive things about ourselves and our achievements, before setting ourselves personal goals. We are also working hard to build on children's friendships and how to cope with any challenges that may arise.

Our PE days are Tuesday which will be with Mr Bolton learning cricket and on Thursday focussing on fitness with their class teacher in the hall. Please ensure that they have their P.E jacket or a waterproof coat on their outdoor P.E session as we have an all-weather pitch.

We will be extending our computing skills this year by learning how to use a login process to access the school laptops, the internet and Google Classroom. We will also be looking at how to copy and paste pictures, edit them, and include them in a power point / google slides presentation.

Music will be taught through Charanger which is a scheme that supports children's understanding of instruments, rhythm and tone. There will be lots of singing especially after half term when the children learn their Christmas songs. In Year 3 your children get the opportunity to learn the recorder. Your child will come home with a recorder. It is your child's responsibility to look after it and clean it. A set of instructions will come home to follow shortly. 3A will be this half term and 3B will be next half term.

Organisation:

It is great to see everyone starting the year well equipped, with smart uniforms. Uniform includes smart black school or plain black trainers. Long hair should be tied back please. Now that they are in Key Stage 2, pupils wear trust badges as part of their uniform. These will be issued shortly, if they get lost, replacements can be purchased from the office for £2.

Please provide snacks that are separate to lunchboxes so that they can be easily accessed without pupils having to visit the lunchbox trolley which is stored away from class. Please check that all their belongings are labelled, as some jumpers have already had a visit to lost property.

Home Learning:

We recognise that different families have different capacities when it comes to supporting homework. Therefore, the following system is used to help people prioritise the work that is set.

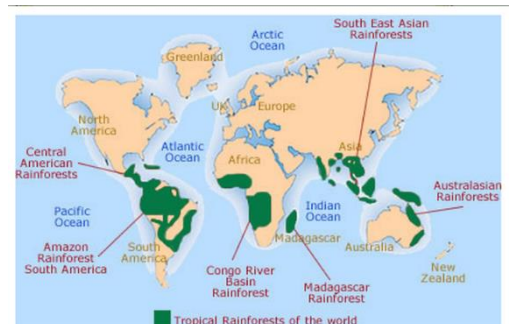
Must – Daily Reading (20 Mins) Out loud.

Should– Regular spelling and math fluency, both sent out on a Friday.

- Spellings will be sent home on a Friday and tested the following Friday.
- Maths Fluency is for you to complete at home and will be sent out on google classroom as well as a paper copy until we are up and running with logins etc.

Could– choose from a range of home learning projects related to our topic.

- Create a poster about the 4 layers of the rainforest.
- Use google Earth to locate the rainforests.
- Research an animal and create a fact file.
- Visit the woods.
- Listen to rainforest sounds- what can you hear?
- Make a homemade instrument to create the sounds on the rainforest.



As always, should you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to ask.

Kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Barcis and Mrs Dupré

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