



September Newsletter

Year 3 2021



Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to Year 3! We hope you all had a safe and restful summer break.


We have a busy and exciting half-term of learning planned, with new topics and our ongoing commitment to make your child's learning experience purposeful, memorable and effective.

Our topic to start the year is 'Predator', 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 and then find out how plants can be predators too. 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 will be learning to create descriptions of settings and make comparisons between the two main settings in the story. Our second text is a non-fiction book called 'Wild Animals of the North' through which pupils will learn to write in a formal, non-fiction style and learn to imitate different types of sentence structures using the book as a model. As readers, we will be taking part in guided reading sessions to continue build on our fluency, expression and build on familiarity with a wide range of texts. Please make sure that pupils have their reading books and reading logs inside their reading folders and bring these to school every day.

Our Maths—No Problem! approach continues, focussing initially on the place value of numbers, before moving on to on learning how to add and take away, 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.

Children in 3A will need to come to school in their PE kits on Mondays and Thursdays, and for 3B Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We will be using REAL PE to deliver both indoor and outdoor PE sessions. More information on this new scheme and how you can help to support your child's physical literacy at home will be sent out shortly.

We will be extending our IT 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.

In music lessons, Year 3 are going to have a very exciting time in learning a brand-new instrument – the ukulele! Children will learn this history of the instrument, how to play it and some fun new songs with the view of developing enough new skills to maybe perform some Christmas songs at the end of the year!

Year 3 homework is going to be sent home half termly in a Must, Should, Could format. These will be sent with half termly newsletters and also be posted on the Website. All children MUST complete the must task, most children should complete the SHOULD task and some families may also want to undertake the COULD task. Please ensure pupils have their book folders with them daily and that home reading is recorded within their reading logs.

For your diaries:

Zoo trip 16th September

Bank holiday 27th September

Half term – 25th – 29th October

End of term 17th December

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

Kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Nolan and Miss Koester

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