



Class 3 Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2 2015



Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term. The children have returned from their half-term holiday refreshed and ready for lots of learning. Our curriculum theme is “The Power of Numbers” where we will be exploring maths through all the other curriculum areas. Below is a brief outline of the work we will be covering in Class 3 this half term, as well as a few reminders and extra information for you. On **Monday November 23rd**, we will be taking part in a History Workshop in school, linked to our topic of the Bronze Age and Iron Age. Towards the end of this term we will be preparing for the Christmas Carol Concert, and it will be great to see you all there on either **Monday 14th December** or **Tuesday 15th December**. As always, if you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to have a quick chat or arrange a time to meet.

Mrs Ilott and Mrs Sawyer



In English we will be continuing to work on our spelling, grammar and punctuation skills. We will be focussing on how to improve our writing

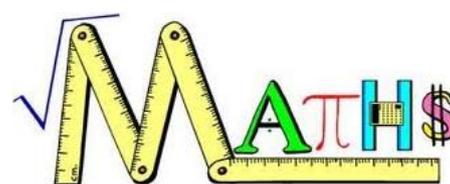
through carefully selecting vocabulary; including using fronted adverbials to add detail to our writing. We will be using commas after fronted adverbials and consolidating speech punctuation. We will continue to focus on using paragraphs and editing writing to check for mistakes and make improvements. We will be looking at a variety of stories linked to numbers and writing our own, focussing on character, setting and plot.

Our class reading book is ‘The Hundred-Mile-An-Hour-Dog’ by Jeremy Strong. If your child hasn’t read anything by this author, we would really recommend him.

Each child will continue to read in a teacher led guided reading group once per week. During this session, we focus on accurate and fluent decoding, comprehension of the story, word choices made by the author and how they have built a picture up in the mind of the reader. These sessions help the children to improve their comprehension and inference skills and give them some pointers for their own writing.

Please continue to encourage children to use a fluid, joined up handwriting style, and hold their pens and pencils with the correct three-pencil grip. We hope to give out many more ‘pen licences’ this term!

We have already spent a week working on telling the time. The



children are making excellent progress with this; either continuing to learn how to read an analogue clock or working on reading digital 12 and 24 hour clocks and problem solving. Thank you for your support at home with this. We will be returning to this topic next half term but please continue to help your child with reading a clock to the nearest minute if they are not yet confident with this. Extending on from this work is working out time intervals between different events which can be discussed at home, e.g. how long is it until bed time!

We are working on perimeter of 2D shapes this week and will then be spending three weeks working on times tables. Year 3 children will focus on the 3, 4 and 8 times tables; whilst Year 4 will work on 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 times tables. The children will be learning how to multiply a multiple of 10 by a single digit mentally and a two digit number by a single digit. Year 4s will be thinking about ‘factor pairs’ and square numbers. We will then move onto division including division with remainders. To finish this half term we will learn about 3D shapes – making them from a range of materials, thinking about their properties and sorting them using the correct vocabulary.

We will be giving the children opportunities to learn through problem solving and reasoning tasks in each of these topic areas.



Our **R.E.** topic continues with “Does a beautiful world mean a wonderful God?” Towards the end of term, we will be looking at the Christmas Story.

Our **PSHCE** this term is linked to the national “Anti-bullying week.” The children will be thinking about standing up to bullying and stopping bullying for all. We will also be thinking about managing our feelings, resolving differences peacefully and empathy.



In **French** the Year 3 children will be learning to say and ask their name and age, as well as some Christmas activities. Year 4 will be learning the names of some animals as well as looking at the season of winter. They will continue to revise vocabulary learned in Year 3.

The children will continue to learn the ukulele each Wednesday with Mr Rossiter. If the children take a ukulele home please help to remind them to bring it back the following Tuesday so that it is ready for the lesson on Wednesday. If they are not returned there are not enough ukuleles for each child to have one during the lesson.



Our **History** topic is “Changes in Britain from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age.” We will be studying Bronze Age technology as well as

Iron Age tribal kingdoms and hill forts, farming and culture.

computing

The children will be linking their computing to maths and science by using branching databases and then creating their own branching databases in the ‘textease’ programme.



Our science topic for this half term is ‘Living Things and their Habitats’. We have learnt about the seven conditions required for something to be living using the mnemonic ‘MRS GREN’. See if your child can tell you what each letter stands for! We are thinking about how and why animals and plants are classified and using branching databases and classification keys to help us to sort leaves and animals. We will be identifying different food chains for different animals and considering the question, ‘Should animals be kept as pets?’

In **Art**, we are looking at Bronze Age and Iron Age art and design. We will be learning about the patterns that Iron Age craftsmen decorated their objects with, as well as making our own Celtic brooch.



PE lessons for this half term are games skills each Monday and dance on Thursdays. When the weather is suitable we will be going outside for games so tracksuit bottoms and a warm top will be needed - a spare pair of socks may also be a good idea. If you would like your child to wear trainers for outdoor PE they may bring these into school and either leave them in school or take them home at the end of the day.



Homework

Thank you for your on-going support in helping your child with their weekly homework tasks.



- Mon: PE – Games Learning Logs to be handed in.
- Wed: Learning Logs go home. Ukulele Lesson. KIRF Challenge. Spelling test and new spellings sent home.
- Thurs: PE - Dance Reading Records checked.