

CLASS 3 AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Class 3! As well as myself, Mrs Gough will also be working with the children this year. The aim of this letter is to give you an insight into what we will be learning about in the weeks ahead and how you can best support your child. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me in the playground after school!

The Autumn Term Curriculum in Class 3

English

This half-term we will be linking our English lessons to our topic of Ancient Egypt. We have begun reading a Flat Stanley adventure set in Egypt and we will be basing our writing around this for the first few weeks. We will be focusing on using more exciting and varied vocabulary, using paragraphs and headings to organise our ideas, using a more extensive range of conjunctions and beginning sentences in different ways. We will also be focusing on building complex sentences and learning to correctly punctuate these. We will be writing across a range of genres and particularly focusing on letter writing, information texts and explanation texts linked to our topic.

Handwriting will be a priority this half-term as we learn how to correctly join our writing. When children have developed neat and consistent joined-up writing, they will be able to write in a black pen provided by the school.

Spelling and grammar will be taught as discrete sessions. Spelling lists will be given out each week with a weekly test. Spelling lists will be given out every Wednesday and the children will be tested on the following Wednesday. Children will also have the space to add up to three words they commonly misspell in their written work to practise. I will also be extending the lists by adding some challenge words that children can learn if they wish to. Please be advised that spelling homework is only a small part of what we do in class to support spellings.

Children should read for fifteen to twenty minutes each night. Please keep reading diaries updated to help us to monitor how frequently children are reading. We have a range of fiction from the Education Library in the class which will be changed every half-term to reflect the children's reading interests.

Maths

Learning broadly follows the Abacus Maths scheme and the Primary Curriculum. Key mathematical concepts covered this term include: place value, addition and subtraction, doubling and halving, telling the time, finding fractions of shapes and amounts, 3D shape and rounding to the nearest 10 and 100. We will be using investigations to extend and enrich the children's understanding and to provide opportunities for children to apply their knowledge.

To support your child at home you could be ask your child to tell you the time. In Year 3, we will be looking at the 24 hour clock as well as analogue time. Children should also be encouraged to practice their times tables as frequently as possible. This could be playing a game on the computer for ten minutes or asking them a few questions on the way to school! By the end of the year, it is expected that children know at least their x2, x3, x4, x5, x10 and x8 times tables and the corresponding division facts.

Maths homework will be set online using Mathletics on a Monday. Children will be given their usernames and passwords and will be shown how to use the website. A more informative letter about Mathletics will follow shortly.

History and Geography

The children will be travelling back in time and learning all about the Ancient Egyptians and exploring what their lives might have been like if they had lived in Ancient Egypt. We will be learning about the Pharaohs, pyramids and mummies as well as discovering what everyday life was like. We will also be looking at Egypt today and comparing the country to our own. To enhance the children's learning of Ancient Egypt the children will be visiting the New Walk museum in Leicester. Further details will follow shortly.

Science

Our Science this term will link to the R.E topic of light and dark. The children will be learning about light sources and shadows. We will also link this to Egyptian topic by considering the question 'Would your shadow follow you into a pyramid?' It would be useful to point out shadows that are created when you're out and about with your child at different times of the day.

Art and Design

Our art and design work this half-term will be helping us to learn more about the class topics. The children will create their own canopic jars and have already created collages to represent light and dark.

PE

This term PE sessions will be on a Tuesday with Mr Turner (invasion games) and Thursday with myself (Gymnastics). After half term, Class 3 will begin 9 weeks of swimming lessons at Carlton Forum. A more detailed letter will follow soon, but children will need a black school tracksuit (or another plain black tracksuit) to wear to school on swimming days.

RE

As I have already mentioned this half term Class 3 will be learning about the symbolism of light in religion. They will relate this to their own lives, Christianity and Hinduism whilst also looking at life in a Hindu family.

French

This half-term we will be learning to introduce ourselves and say how we are feeling, to describe ourselves and the names of colours, food, numbers and animals. Lessons will be interactive and conversation based.

General Information:

Please can you ensure that children bring water to school in their drinking bottles and that they have a healthy snack for morning and afternoon breaks. This should not include crisps, sweets, chocolate or cakes.

Children may have already told you about the class dojo's which is our class reward system. Children can earn points for different aspects that relate to a positive mind-set. For every 10 points children receive they are able to choose a reward coupon and I will send a note home so you can praise them for their achievement.

I am pleased to have met so many of you already. I am really looking forward to the year ahead. If there is anything you would like to discuss please do not hesitate to speak to me in the playground or we can arrange an appointment if this isn't possible.

Kind regards,

Miss L Najuk.
Class 3 teacher.