

January 2015

CLASS 3 SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted that the children settled back so quickly after the Christmas holidays and have come back with fantastic attitudes and have settled into their learning straight away! The aim of this letter is to give you an overview of what we will be learning about during the Spring term of Year 3 and to share with you some of our key focuses and objectives. During the spring term we will be basing our work around the question 'What would it be like to live in New York?' and exploring the question of 'Why is New York famous?'

The Spring Term Curriculum in Class 3

English

For the first half of this term, we will be using the book 'The man who walked between the towers.' We will use the text to learn about fact and opinion and we will create newspaper articles and letter writing as well as beginning to learn how to write scripts. Together with the book and our own research we will be able to write a fact file about New York.

After half term, we will be learning about Annie Moore, the first immigrant to enter New York via Ellis Island. We will be researching Annie and Ellis Island and doing a longer piece of historical, creative writing to show what we have learnt. We will then be learning about the Titanic and writing for a variety of different purposes, including recounts and information texts. We will read *Kaspar Prince of Cats* by Michael Morpurgo as our class text which ties in with our topic as we learn about the Titanic.

Spellings will be given out on a Friday and the test will be on the following Friday. There will be a focus on adding suffixes to root words, revisiting key words and commonly misspelt words, as well as words taken from the children's own work.

Maths

This term the children will be learning their 3, 4 and 8 times table and division facts and learning how to use this in problems.

The children will be continuing to learn how to tell the time from an analogue and digital clock including the 12 hour and 24 hour clocks and roman numerals and learn to read the time to the nearest minute.

After half term the children will be focusing on fractions. They will be learning how to find a fraction of a set of objects and understand fractions as equal parts. This will lead on to children being able to compare and add fractions.

History and Geography

Our key question is 'What would it be like to live in New York?' As already mentioned children will learn about the history of New York and New York today. The children will learn about the Titanic, the construction of Brooklyn bridge and the life of Annie Moore.

The geography focus will allow children to compare New York to Nottingham as well as considering the different boroughs of New York and where it is in the world.

Science

This term the children will be learning about forces and will investigate the question 'How safe was Philippe Petit on the wire?' and 'How could a magnet help you to reach New York?' During this science topic the children will learn that magnets attract or repel each other and the materials they attract. They will have the opportunity to develop their skills in asking appropriate questions and making predictions.

Art and Design

To link with our New York topic the children will be looking at the work of Andy Warhol. During art lessons children will learn how to appraise art and ask questions about it. They will then be able to create their own Pop Art.

R.E

In R.E the children are learning about signs, symbols and parables. We have already discussed and created some art about symbols in the environment and some symbols that Christians use and what they represent.

PSHE/SRE

Our theme for PSHE will be 'Good to be me' and after half term it will be 'Going for Goals'. Lots of this theme will be explored through a weekly circle time. During this circle time I will also be working with children on their playground games and learning how to get on when on the playground.

P.E

P.E sessions with Mr Turner are on a Monday. This half term will be hockey outdoors. Swimming will continue on a Wednesday. I am really pleased with how well the children are progressing in their swimming lessons and they really enjoy the afternoon.

Reminder

Children may bring in a piece of fruit for morning breaks and healthy snacks for afternoon break times (no sweets, chocolate or crisps please). Please can children ensure that they bring water to school in their school drinking bottle.

Please do get in touch if you have any further questions. I am always available after school in the playground for a chat or you are welcome to arrange a meeting at any point, should you require a more formal setting.

Kindest Regards,

Miss Najuk