

Dear Parents & Carers,

Year 3 Curriculum Letter - Autumn 2023



Welcome back and welcome to Year 3! We hope that you and your family had a great summer. We are delighted to have the children back in school and are very much looking forward to what this Autumn Term has to offer. This letter has all the information on what children will be learning during this Term.

Theme – Tomb Raiders



Our Autumn term theme is 'Tomb Raiders'. Children will explore different aspects of Ancient Egypt, learning key facts about the Ancient Egyptian civilisation, geographical features of Egypt,

including location and physical features, as well as key information about pyramids, pharaohs, mummies and beliefs in the afterlife. The children will also experience time travelling to an ancient tomb where they will discover and analyse Ancient Egyptian artefacts before designing and making their own Egyptian death masks and canopic jars (buried with the Pharaohs!). There is

also a special Ancient Egyptian visitor who will provide hands-on, practical activities to immerse children even further into the ways of Ancient Egyptian life. We hope that the children are as excited about Egypt as we are!

English

During this term, the children will experience a range of contemporary fiction and non-fiction texts. To start, children will explore the story 'Claude in the City', getting creative through character descriptions before writing their own adventure story. Following this, they will then further immerse themselves into Ancient Egypt with some great, rich and varied texts. 'I was There: Tutankhamun's Tomb' will allow the children to





understand and write an eyewitness account of the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb whilst the non-fiction text 'Cleopatra' from the National Geographic will provide children with interesting facts and information to write a biography. The children will also read the nonfiction book 'Explore Ancient Egyptians' in preparation for their very own information text on Ancient Egypt.

Alongside this, the children will develop their reading skills through a wide variety of different texts to improve their understanding of the different content domains: word meanings, retrieve, summarise, infer, predict, connect, word choices and compare.

Mathematics

We will begin by focusing on number and place value for numbers up to 3 digits, building confidence with number understanding and recognition before moving on to comparing and ordering numbers to 1,000. We will then begin to use both mental and formal written methods for the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. There will be a strong focus upon times tables and the instant recall of these in preparation for the statutory Multiplication Tables Check that takes place in Year 4. Following this, our focus will be measure where children will be taught how to measure accurately using millimetres, centimetres and metres. We will also teach them how to compare, add and subtract lengths. Next, children will explore money where they will calculate totals and change through addition and subtraction. Arithmetic sessions will be



completed weekly for key skills such as times tables, addition and subtraction and prior learning consolidated through starter activities within maths lessons.

We will ensure plenty of practical experiences, using maths in real life contexts, whilst drawing on previous learning to continue challenging children to deepen their understanding by applying the mathematical knowledge to a range of different problems.

Science

This term in Year 3 Science, children will be covering the following units:

- Amazing Bodies

Children will discover why humans have skeletons, explaining their importance before investigating femur leg bones, before investigating our major muscle groups and how they work. Finally, we will compare human skeletons to those of other animals.

- Going Underground

During this topic, the children will learn about rocks, fossils and soils. This includes identifying different types of rocks, exploring the properties of rocks, understanding fossil formation, what soil is made of and which soil is best for growing crops.

Personal, Social and Health Education - PSHE



Our first Jigsaw theme this term is 'Being Me in My World' where children will be considering 'Who am I and how do I fit?'. They will then be 'Celebrating Difference' looking at respect, anti-bullying and being unique. We will continue having weekly Thrive class assemblies, that will support the children's emotional health, well-being and social skills. This allows the children to develop their voice in order to express their needs and feelings.

Physical Education - PE



This term's activities will include Dance and Hockey in the first half term before moving onto Gymnastics and Football after the October break. PE in Year 3 will take place on Tuesdays and Fridays. As a school, we have made the decision that children can come to school in their PE kits on PE days in order to maximise learning time.

Just a reminder that children are able to wear a white, blue or house-coloured t-shirt and dark coloured shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms. Children should have their blue school jumper,

cardigan or fleece over the top of their PE t-shirt. Earrings must be taken out or covered and as in school, long hair must be tied back. Please support this vital area of the curriculum by helping children to bring the correct changes of clothes to school for these sessions.

Digital Technology

Our outcome for Digital Technology this term is to create an eye-catching digital poster to advertise an event in Publisher. In order to do this, we will be typing and punctuating text, inserting WordArt images, using text boxes and drawing and editing shapes.



The children will continue to practise hearing and saying French words and phrases through songs and rhymes as well as developing accurate pronunciation as they go. In the Autumn term, we will be exploring:



- Basic greetings
- Counting with numbers 1-10
- Recognising different colours

Religious Education – RE

Within Religious Education, the children will be learning about Diwali in the first half term followed by the true meaning of Christmas after the October break.

Home Learning

- Children are expected to be reading to an adult at least 3 times a week, and independently change their books on a regular basis, varying between home reading books and school library books to encourage a wider range of texts being read, whilst promoting a love of reading. Please log any reading in the reading diary and encourage your child to note any independent reading they do too.
- Times Tables Rockstars is an excellent way for children to practise and consolidate their times table knowledge which is extremely important in Year 3 to consolidate before the statutory Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check. The children will be set gigs to track progress as well as battles against other classes and year groups in order to compete for rewards.

Class Dojo

Class Dojo is a communication platform to keep you informed of your children's work as well as any key information that we need to share with you on a daily basis. Please ensure you keep up to date with messages posted out on Dojo as we use this as our daily means of communication. If you are having any difficulties accessing this, please let us know.

As always, many thanks for your continued support. We are all very excited about the learning ahead during this term. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Mr Horishny, Mrs Lyons, Mrs Henry and Mrs Bonham Year 3 Team

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