

Class 3 Newsletter - Autumn term 2011

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a fantastic summer holiday and enjoyed the time spent with your child. I hope all the children are looking forward to the beginning of the new academic year and for those changing classes I am sure they will soon settle into the routines of Key Stage 2 and enjoy the activities and learning offered to them.

During this term we will be studying the following topics:

Literacy	Children will experience and analyse a wide range of different genres: including poetry - using language play and performing poetry. In fiction we will explore myths, legends and plays. In non fiction we will investigate and use information texts. We will focus on developing the quality of independent writing and an increased understanding of reading text through comprehension and guided reading sessions. Sounds-Write sessions will reinforce children's segmenting and blending skills to read and spell an increasing range of vocabulary.
Numeracy	Children will be building on their existing learning and developing their numerical knowledge and understanding through activities that involve problem solving in order to use and apply their skills in counting, partitioning and calculating, handling data and measures, securing number facts, calculations and relationships and patterns in numbers. Please support your child at home in learning and recalling their multiplication and division facts! This term we are concentrating on 2's, 3's, 4's, 5's and 10x tables. Multiplication tests will be held on Friday afternoons.
Science	Circuits, conductors and insulators are explored and the need for complete circuit in order for a device to work. Forces are investigated through magnets and springs.
ICT	Developing images using repeating patterns. Exploring visual ideas through drawing packages. E- Mail. Learning how to use e- mail to send and receive messages.
DT	Alarms. Develops understanding of simple electrical control through designing and making an alarm system. Frames. Children make stable structures using stiffening materials.
Art	Children will investigate how paintings, prints, photographs and other images that include figures communicates ideas about relationships. They use composition skills to make a double portrait that conveys ideas about themselves and their relationship with another person in their lives.
Geography (1st half term)	A comparative study of a village in Kenya, helping children to develop their ideas about a less economically developed country.
History (2nd half term)	Anglo-Saxons. Develops children's understanding that people from other societies have been coming to Britain for a long time. They will investigate the work of archaeologists and about the culture and way of life of Anglo-Saxons in Britain.
PE	Tuesday and Friday. We will be doing invasion games and gymnastics. Please ensure your child's PE kit is in school every Monday and remains there all week. Trainers or plimsolls will be needed this term (jogging bottoms and a warm top required if weather is a bit cool). Please remove any earrings on these days.
RE	Places of Worship. Explores worship in home and neighbourhood, pilgrimage to places of special significance by local and global communities.
Music	Learning a range of songs and developing children's musical composition.
PHSCE	New Beginnings. Developing children's self awareness, empathy, social skills and motivation. Offering them the opportunity to see themselves as valued individuals in the community. Good to be Me. Developing self awareness and helping children understand their feelings, considering their strengths and weaknesses.

Class 3 homework: Please support your child with regular reading, weekly spellings, and their Learning Log tasks. These will be given out on a Friday and will be expected back in school by **Thursday** of the following week. Children are asked to learn their spellings and write 5 sentences using their words. Each week we will concentrate on learning different multiplication and division facts.

Please help your child remember to undertake the homework and return it on time as well as ensuring they bring their reading books into school in order that they can read **daily**.

Your child's PE kit should consist of: trainers/plimsolls, white t-shirt, blue shorts or jogging bottoms and a warm top until the weather improves.

Class teacher Mr S Clarke

Teaching assistant Mrs A Oldham

LSA Mrs G Foster