

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

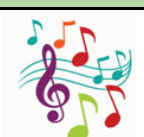
Welcome back!



We hope you all had a wonderful summer and enjoyed some well-deserved time with family and friends. It has been lovely to welcome the children into Year 3, and they have already made a fantastic start to the new school year. Moving into Key Stage 2 is an exciting milestone, and we are here to support the children every step of the way. We are looking forward to a fun, busy and successful autumn term filled with new learning, challenges and opportunities for the children to grow in confidence and independence.

Year 3

English	Reading	Maths
 This term, our English learning begins with an exciting instructional writing unit inspired by <i>George's Marvellous Medicine</i> by Roald Dahl. Following a memorable potion-making activity, the children will learn how to write clear and effective instructions using time conjunctions, imperative verbs and expanded noun phrases. Later in the term, we will move on to narrative writing based on the traditional tale <i>Anansi the Spider</i>. The children will explore storytelling techniques, characterisation and descriptive language before creating their own engaging folktales. Throughout both units, we will focus on developing creativity, confidence and key writing skills.	 This term, some children will continue to follow the Little Wandle Phonics programme to support their decoding, fluency and comprehension skills, reading in small groups with an adult three times a week. Other children will continue or begin working on the Little Wandle Fluency programme, helping them to build confidence, accuracy and expression when reading longer texts. Our whole-class reading book this term is <i>George's Marvellous Medicine</i> by Roald Dahl. We will enjoy reading this imaginative and humorous story together, discussing new vocabulary, making predictions and exploring the characters and plot. The text also links closely with our English learning, providing inspiration for writing activities throughout the term.	 In maths this half term, we will begin with a focus on place value. The children will develop their understanding of the value of each digit in a number, working with numbers up to 1,000. They will use practical equipment, drawings and number lines to represent, compare and order numbers. As the term progresses, we will move on to addition and subtraction, exploring mental and written methods and applying these skills to reasoning and problem-solving activities. The children will continue to use a range of concrete resources, such as counters and Base 10, to support their understanding. Regular opportunities to revisit key concepts will help build confidence, fluency and accuracy in Maths.
Science	History	Art
 This half term, our Science unit will help the children answer the question: What is the science of light and shadows? They will investigate different sources of light and discover how light differs from reflection. Through a range of practical investigations, the children will explore how shadows are formed, how they can change and which materials create the darkest shadows. They will also learn about ultraviolet (UV) light, how to protect themselves from the Sun and carry out a fair test to investigate how effective different sunglasses are at blocking UV light.	 This term, our History unit will help the children answer the question: What was everyday life like in prehistoric Britain? They will explore how life changed throughout the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages, discovering how people hunted, farmed and developed new skills over thousands of years. The children will investigate fascinating artefacts, including Iron Age hoards, to learn what they reveal about the past. They will also discover the story of the Amesbury Archer, using historical evidence to explore what his burial tells us about prehistoric life, beliefs and achievements.	 This term, our Art unit will help the children answer the question: What are contrasting colours and how can we use them in our art? The children will explore the foundations of colour theory, discovering how artists use colour to create mood, meaning and impact. They will investigate how contrasting colours work together, experiment with mixing and selecting colours, and study the techniques used in existing artworks. Using their new knowledge, the children will create their own textile artwork and imaginative compositions before evaluating how effectively they have used colour to achieve their artistic intentions.

Music	R.E	PSHE
		
This half term, the children will develop their understanding of rhythm through listening activities and practical music-making. They will learn to identify, copy and create rhythmic patterns using a range of percussion instruments. Through games, clapping activities and group performances, the children will explore beat, tempo and rhythm in greater depth. They will also begin to experiment with simple ways of recording rhythms, making links to their History learning by considering how early humans may have used symbols and markings to represent sound.	This half term, the children will explore the concept of symbol. They will learn about the difference between a symbol and a logo, and reflect on their own thoughts and feelings about trees. As the unit develops, they will investigate how trees can have special symbolic meaning in different religions, with a particular focus on Christianity. Through stories, discussion and creative activities, the children will consider what trees might represent and why symbols can be important to believers.	This half term, the children will focus on the Jigsaw unit Being Me in My World. They will explore their place within the class and school community, think about their rights and responsibilities, and set personal goals for the year ahead. Through discussions and activities, the children will develop their understanding of how their actions can affect others and contribute positively to their community. We will also continue to use the Zones of Regulation, helping children to recognise, understand and manage their emotions with increasing confidence and independence.
Computing	French	
		
This half term, the children will begin by learning about networks and the internet. They will explore how digital devices connect and communicate, and learn how information is shared across networks. Through practical activities and discussion, the children will be introduced to key vocabulary such as network, server and router. As part of our online safety curriculum, they will also complete their first online safety lesson, focusing on how to stay safe online and make sensible, responsible choices when using the internet.	This term, the children will begin their exciting journey of learning French with the J'apprends le français unit. They will discover where France is in the world and learn about other French-speaking countries. As the unit progresses, the children will learn how to greet others, introduce themselves, ask and answer simple questions, count to ten and name a range of colours in French. Through songs, games and speaking activities, they will begin to build confidence in listening to, speaking and recognising simple French words and phrases.	

Each week, the children take part in two PE sessions with our sports coaches – Coach Jordan, Coach James, and Coach Charlotte.

During the autumn and summer terms, one of these sessions takes place in our outdoor learning area, where children develop important skills such as teamwork, resilience, and strategic thinking.

Over this half term, children will develop their basic netball skills through a series of focused small-group drills. They will practise key techniques such as passing, footwork, and shooting, while also improving teamwork and spatial awareness. As their confidence grows, children will move on to small-sided games where they can apply these skills in a match setting, developing their understanding of rules, tactics, and playing as part of a team.

P.E kit:

- ✓ White t-shirt
- ✓ Black or navy jogging bottoms (winter)
- ✓ Black or navy shorts (summer)
- ✓ Plain dark coloured hoodie or sweatshirt
- ✓ Plimsolls (for indoor P.E)
- ✓ Trainers
- ✓ Hair tied back
- ✓ Earrings out
- ✓ Waterproof trousers (for outdoor learning)
- ✓ Wellies



Coming up...



Monday 7th September

Teacher-led clubs begin – pick-up is at 4:15pm.

Monday 14th September

School photographer in – please ensure your child is in full school uniform.

Friday 26th September

INSET Day – school will be closed to pupils.

Please continue to check Arbor messages and emails regularly for updates on these and any additional events throughout the half term.

Home Learning



Maths Homework:

Maths homework is set on Atom Learning every Monday and is due by Friday. All tasks are based on learning already covered in class. If children need help, videos and slideshows are available to support them as they work through the tasks.

English Homework:

English homework is set on Atom Learning every Wednesday and is due the following Tuesday. As with maths, the tasks will only cover content already taught in class, and children can access videos and slideshows to support them if needed.

Reading Diaries:

Children are expected to read at least three times per week, and we encourage them to aim for five. Reading diaries are collected every Monday. The reading hut is available on certain days for children who would like extra reading time or need to catch up on their diary entries.

Contact us



If there is anything you wish to discuss with us regarding the information in this newsletter, or if you have any further queries or concerns regarding your child's experience at school, please do not hesitate to get in touch:

Class 1

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Class 3

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How can you help?



Reading with your child:

Reading regularly at home plays a vital role in supporting your child's progress and complements the work we do in school. Please ensure reading diaries are handed in every Monday so we can monitor and celebrate their reading journey.

TT Rockstars:

Regular practice on TT Rockstars helps children to develop quick recall of times tables, which is essential for success in maths. Encouraging your child to log in and practise frequently will really boost their confidence and fluency.

Homework:

Weekly homework reinforces classroom learning and includes videos and diagrams to support understanding. Please ensure your child completes it each week, as it helps them practise key skills we've been working on in class.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Year 3 team