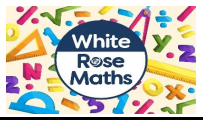
CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

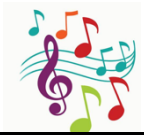
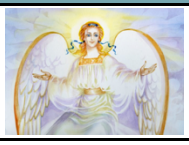
Welcome back!



We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half term break. The children have returned to school with great enthusiasm and are already showing excellent focus and a positive attitude towards their learning. This half term is always a busy but exciting one, with lots of engaging topics across the curriculum as well as preparations for the festive season. Below is an overview of what we'll be covering in each subject area over the coming weeks.

Year 3

English	Reading	Maths
		
This half term, the children will be learning how to write engaging non-fiction texts linked to our previous learning about prehistoric Britain. They will research prehistoric animals, such as the woolly mammoth and giant lemur, and use this knowledge to write factual reports using features such as headings, subheadings, conjunctions and apostrophes for possession. Later in the term, we will move on to performance poetry, where the children will explore a range of Christmas-themed poems. They will learn how to use expression, volume and rhythm to perform poems aloud, building confidence and enjoyment of spoken word.	This half term, some children will continue with the Little Wandle Phonics programme, developing decoding, fluency and comprehension skills through small-group reading sessions three times a week. Others will follow the Little Wandle Fluency programme, building confidence, accuracy and expression when reading longer texts. Our whole-class reading book is *Little Legends: The Spell Thief* by Tom Percival. We will explore this imaginative adventure together, discussing vocabulary, making predictions and developing our understanding of the characters and plot. Through shared reading, the children will strengthen their comprehension skills and enjoyment of reading.	At the start of this half term, children will complete their final week on addition and subtraction, applying formal written methods and solving problems involving three-digit numbers. The rest of the term will focus on the *Multiplication and Division* unit. Children will develop their understanding of equal groups, arrays, and repeated addition before progressing to multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables. They will also begin to explore related facts and inverse operations. Regular arithmetic practice and real-life problem solving will help children build fluency and confidence in using these essential skills.
Science	**Geography**	**DT**
		
This half term, our Science unit Eat Well, Move Well will help the children explore how animals, including humans, survive and stay healthy. They will compare the diets of carnivores, herbivores and omnivores and investigate what makes a healthy, balanced diet. The children will learn about the human skeleton, discovering its important functions and how muscles work with bones to help us move. They will also investigate different types of skeletons and learn to use scientific vocabulary including vertebrate, invertebrate, endoskeleton and exoskeleton.	This half term, our Geography unit Land Use Detectives will help the children explore the UK and investigate how its land is used. They will use maps to identify human and physical features and develop their knowledge of the UK's countries, counties and cities. The children will learn about different types of land use before becoming geographical detectives themselves, carrying out fieldwork around the school to investigate how land in our local area is used. They will collect and interpret geographical information, helping them to develop their map-reading, observation and fieldwork skills.	This half term, our Design and Technology unit The Healthy Kitchen will help the children explore what makes a healthy, balanced diet and why this is important. They will investigate different ways of preparing and cooking food and learn how to follow recipes accurately. Using their understanding of healthy ingredients, the children will design and make a nutritious taco, selecting fillings that contribute to a balanced meal. Finally, they will taste and evaluate their finished product, considering how successfully it meets their original ideas.

Music	R.E	PSHE
		
This half term, the children will be exploring classical music, focusing on *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* by Benjamin Britten. They will learn to identify different sections of the orchestra and the unique timbres of each instrument. As they listen, discuss and respond to the music, the children will become more confident at recognising instruments by sound and understanding how they are played. This unit supports musical appreciation, listening skills, and introduces key vocabulary around orchestral music.	This half term, children will explore the concept of *angels* as part of our Living Difference IV curriculum. They will reflect on what angels might represent, both personally and within the Christian faith. Through discussion, enquiry and storytelling, children will learn about the role angels play in the Christmas story, including their appearances to Mary, Joseph and the shepherds. They will also consider how the idea of angels might still hold meaning today, and explore their own thoughts and questions through creative and reflective activities	This half term, children will explore the concept of difference and diversity as part of the *Celebrating Difference* unit. They will learn to recognise and respect individual strengths, opinions, and backgrounds, and begin to understand the impact of unkind behaviour or stereotyping. The unit supports children in identifying what makes a positive relationship and how to respond appropriately to conflict or unfair treatment. These lessons help build emotional literacy, empathy, and a strong sense of respect for others.
Computing	**French**	
		
In this half term, children will be introduced to programming using the latest version of *Scratch*. They will learn how to create and control characters (sprites) by building sequences of instructions using code blocks. As they progress, children will animate their sprites and create simple interactive scenes. The unit develops key skills such as logical thinking, problem-solving, and debugging, helping children understand how computer programs are built and how to improve them through testing and refinement.	This half term, the children will continue developing their French language skills through the Les saisons (The Seasons) unit. They will learn to name the four seasons in French and describe the different weather conditions and changes associated with each one. Through songs, games and speaking activities, the children will practise using simple French phrases and begin combining them to form longer sentences. They will also learn how to express their favourite season and explain their choice. Throughout the unit, the children will develop their confidence in speaking, listening, reading and writing simple French words and sentences.	

Each week, the children take part in two PE sessions, led by our sports coaches – Coach Jordan, Coach James, Coach Rosie 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.

This half term in PE, the children will focus on Dance. They will use movement patterns with control, coordination and balance, working both individually and in groups. As the unit progresses, children will build confidence performing sequences in time with music and develop a short routine. They'll be encouraged to express themselves creatively, exploring how movement reflects rhythm, mood and storytelling. The unit supports physical development and teamwork, helping children to perform confidently alongside their peers.

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...

Parents' Evening
Monday 9th & Wednesday 11th November
There will be no teacher-led clubs during this week.

INSET Day
Friday 27th November
School will be closed to pupils for staff training.

Carols on the Playground
Friday 18th December
Join us for a festive outdoor sing-along to celebrate the end of term. More information to come.

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
Mr Cameron
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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