

Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term ~ Class 3 (Y3/4)

In order for you to feel clear about the teaching and learning intentions for the Spring Term 2018, I hope that you find reading this overview helpful ...

The focus will be Geography, Science and DT based learning and the children will become experts in rivers and bridge building.

The children will be learning about the Water Cycle, states of matter and changing state, river formation, rivers of the world, and designing and building bridges.

In the course of this learning, the children will read and write stories that include a theme of water. They will learn the science of water including the water cycle and the different states of matter; how materials change between them. They will study maps and atlases to improve their understanding of where in the world the 10 major rivers are found and through which continents they flow. Art work will include creating collage and watercolour.

I hope that this theme will provide the children with high quality material for developing skills in English and Mathematics. Their Geographical, Scientific and Design Technology skills will link with other subjects across the curriculum to create an overarching 'project' theme.

English work will include narrative and explanation writing, but will also include a work on poetry. All the texts we share will support the learning of subject specific vocabulary and help centre the children in the core theme. This will also support the learning of spelling rules and patterns, and the need to have a better spoken and written Standard English.

Mathematics work will involve number including solving problems, including missing number problems, involving multiplication and division. This will follow into recognising and using fractions as numbers: unit fractions and non-unit fractions with small denominators and comparing and ordering unit fractions, and fractions with the same denominators. Children will then learn how to recognise and show, using diagrams, families of common equivalent fractions. There will be, as ever, a **strong** focus on learning multiplication tables and deriving associated division facts. I hope that you will continue to use MathsWhizz, which will be tailored to back up what is happening in class, and TTRockstars to support this. The progress that we have seen so far has been remarkable!

In PE, the children will be undertaking activities with our sports provider MSP. The children will be developing ball skills, control, coordination and teamwork through Tag Rugby, Basketball/Netball. They will also be working on development control, movement and balance through archery and fencing.

Mr. M Watson

Update:

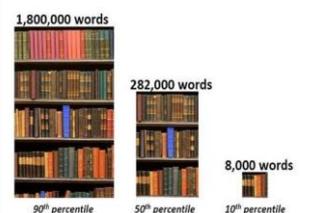
- Thank you for continuing to engage with Class Dojo to keep up to date with what is happening in school. Please check the 'Class Story' and 'Pupil Story' updates which give a window into the classroom. 'Pupil Story' allows your children and myself to share photos with only their parents.
- Please remember that your child will have their MathsWhizz, ReadTheory & TTRockstars login in their Homework book. Please use this resource as often as possible as it is proven to have a positive impact on children's achievement.

Messages:

- P.E will continue to take place on **Wednesday** and **Thursday**. Please ensure that your child has a labelled kit in school on these days.
- For PE, ear earrings please be removed or covered with a plaster or micropore tape and long hair **must** be tied back securely.
- Homework will be sent out on **Friday** and should be returned on **Wednesday** of the following week.
- Please listen to your child read 3-4 times a week for 10-15 minutes, it makes a huge difference to their learning and understanding.

Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A" reads 20 minutes each day	Student "B" reads 5 minutes each day	Student "C" reads 1 minute each day
3600 minutes in a school year	900 minutes in a school year	180 minutes in a school year



By the end of 6th grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?
(Nagy & Herman, 1987)