

Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term ~ Class 3 (Y3/4)

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

The focus will be Geographic, Historical and Scientific based learning, all threaded closely together through English as this term the children to become Explorers and Problem Solvers.

The children will be learning about how to find and name countries on a world map, as well realizing that not all places are the same. They will research famous Explorers and their journeys to unknown places. The children will investigate how Electricity and electrical circuits work, including practical uses for electricity linked to our overall theme.

In the course of their learning, the children will read and write stories, news reports, and non-chorological reports about newly discovered flora and fauna. They will learn the science of electricity, circuits, conductors and insulators. This will construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. They will study maps and atlases to improve their understanding of where in the world major countries and cities are found and on which continents they are placed. They will also learn about the points of the compass and how to locate places on a map using 4 and 6 figure grid references. Art work will include drawing and sketching animals and a small study on Wassily Kandinsky.

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

English work will include a strong focus on narrative and non-fiction writing, developing key skills in spelling, punctuation and sentence structure. We will share a range of high quality/high challenge reading texts which 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. I strongly encourage you as parents to ensure that your children are regular readers of interesting and challenging texts.

Mathematics work will involve number including place value, addition and subtraction methods. They will also be introduced to rounding and counting back beyond zero into negative numbers. They will develop effective and efficient written methods for addition and subtraction calculations to help solve word problems. There will be a **strong** focus on learning multiplication tables and deriving associated division facts. Year 4 children will be able to continue to use TTRockstars to support this and children entering Year 3 will be set up on this in the first week.

In PE, the children will be undertaking activities MSP. The children will be developing ball skills, control, coordination and teamwork through football. They will also be working of development control, movement and balance in gymnastics.

Mr. M Watson

Update:

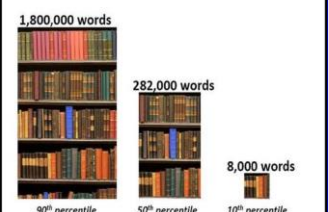
- Thank you for continuing to engage with Class Dojo to keep up to date with what is happening in school. Please check the 'Class Story' and 'Pupil Story' updates which give a window into the classroom. 'Pupil Story' allows your children and myself to share photos with only their parents.
- Please remember that your child will have their 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, can earrings should be removed 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)