



## Class 3 Autumn Newsletter



Dear Parents

Welcome to Year 3! It sounds like the children have all had a lovely summer holiday and I am pleased to say that they have all started Year 3 with enthusiasm. This newsletter is to inform you of the different things taking place and the routines of the class. If you have any queries based on the information in the newsletter then please do not hesitate to contact me, either before or after school, or alternatively by email- [staff04@croft.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:staff04@croft.staffs.sch.uk).



**Maths:** In our maths lessons this term the children will be looking more at place value working with numbers up to 1000. They will be developing their understanding of addition and subtraction facts and mental and written calculations for these operations. We will be revising our 2, 5 and 10 times tables and will be learning our 3, 4 and 8's. Please encourage your child to access TTRockstars at home, as this is a fun way to practice their tables independently. In geometry they will be focusing on the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and learning about horizontal, vertical, parallel and perpendicular lines. As the term progresses, the children we will be using and applying their skills to recognise and explain patterns and relationships in numbers and problems solving using different methods that we have learnt.

**Literacy:** This term in Literacy lessons, the children will be reading a range of different text types including non-chronological reports, narrative, poetry, instructions and letters. We will be using the fiction texts 'Ug' which is always popular with the children, 'The Stone Age boy' and 'How to Wash your Mammoth'. All of our writing will be based around these texts and fit in with our topic. Throughout the lessons, the class will be revising nouns, adjectives, adverbs and conjunctions and building on their knowledge of prepositions, conjunctions, fronted adverbials and using different types of tense. Our punctuation focus will be on revising our use of full stops, capital letters, questions marks and exclamation marks and we will be practicing using speech marks for direct speech and commas for different purposes. Each week the children will have a spelling lesson where they will be learning different spelling patterns including word starts and ends and plurals. In addition to this, each week the children will be tested on commonly misspelled words and words which follow a spelling pattern. These spellings will be given to the children on a Friday and they will have a week to practice these at home for a test on the following Friday. The children will continue to practice joined handwriting throughout the week, and any extra practice at home would be beneficial.



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**Science:** During Science lessons, the children will be learning about light. They will learn about how we see things and how light travels in a straight line. The second topic is forces and magnets. They will be learning that a force is a push or pull and comparing how objects move on different surfaces. The children will sort magnetic and non-magnetic materials and know that magnets have a north and south pole with opposite poles attracting one another and repelling like ones. There is lots of opportunity for practical activities in this topic, which they will enjoy.



**Topic:** 'Time Travellers' is the name of our topic for this term. During the first half term, we will be travelling back in time to explore the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron age and comparing the differences between them. We will apply Geography skills using UK and world maps to locate areas that were inhabited and the clues they left behind. We will look at how the British environment was changed by the introduction of farming. In history we will learn about changes in Britain throughout the Bronze, Bronze and Iron ages. This will include: hunter-gatherers and early farmers, for example, at Skara Brae; in the Bronze Age about religion and technology for example, at Stonehenge; in

the Iron Age about hill forts: tribal kingdoms, farming, art and culture. In Art and Design we will create our own cave paintings and model Prehistoric houses while in Design and Technology we will exploring different weaving techniques used to create baskets. Later in the term we will be travelling back to the time of the Ancient Greeks to see how they lived, exploring Ancient Greek artefacts and researching the different Greek Gods. Then finally exploring the life of the Mayans and how their lives differ from ours.

**Computing:** This half term, our computing focus will be on using a search engine. The children will be researching our topic, finding the most reliable websites for information. Importantly, the class will be learning about Internet safety and how to stay safe online. They will then be transferring their information into a Power Point, importing images and combing these with different visual effects.



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**PE:** The children will take part in two PE lessons per week; one gymnastics in the hall on a Friday afternoon with myself and one outdoor lesson with Mr Swift, our sports coach on a Wednesday morning. During our outdoor Games lessons the children will be developing their tennis skills and their outdoor and adventurous skills which will be focused on orienteering. For indoor PE the children will develop their gymnastics and fitness skills. The children will need their black or blue short, plain white t-shirt and pumps. For their outdoor games kit the children will need; black or blue shorts, white t-shirt, tracksuit and trainers. If your child is unable to take part in PE then could you please provide a letter excusing them. Can I please ask that no jewellery is worn on either of those days, including earrings.

**RE:** In RE this term the children will be exploring rules for living that are found in sacred writings and teachings. They will consider the impact that these teaching have on the lives of believers. They will then move onto compare and contrast the use of symbols, actions and gestures used in worship by different communities.



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**French:** During French lessons the children will be focusing on two units; portraits and pocket money. In the 'portraits' topic the children will be learning about parts of the body, colours, descriptions of people. The 'pocket money' topic will see the children expressing opinions about likes and dislikes and food and toys, recalling simple prices and number one to ten.

**Music:** You will also be pleased to know that the children will continue 'Rock It' lessons on a Tuesday afternoon. In Key Stage 2, they learn to play as part of our class band learning how to play instruments including keyboards, glockenspiels, melodicas or drums. Mrs Bough will allocate the instruments for the children after a few introductory lessons.

Each Friday your child will be given a piece of either Numeracy or Literacy work to be completed by the following Monday. They will record this in their homework diary,



including anything extra that they need to remember for the following week. If your child found a piece of work difficult, then please make a note of it in the homework diary and I can then follow it up at school. We will aim to listen to your child read at least, once a week in school. It would be beneficial for each child to read at least three times a week at home, as this will support the reading which takes place in school. Please could you make a note of any reading they do at home in their reading record book. If your child needs their books changing, then they should place it in the appropriate box in the classroom in the morning, and we will change it during the day.

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Any many of your are aware, I am also the Deputy Head which means I am allocated designated management time. This will take place on an Thursday morning and Mr Challinor will be covering the class. On a Monday morning, Mrs Pucci will be working with the children to cover my PPA time.



If you wish to discuss anything further then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Miss K.Bartram