

Class 3 Spring Newsletter

Welcome back and happy New Year, from speaking to the children I hear that you have all had a wonderful couple of weeks with your families. I'd like to start with a massive thank you for all of you cards, gift and best wishes before Christmas, they are all greatly appreciated. This newsletter is to inform you of what your child will be learning this term.

Literacy: During our literacy lessons, the children will be creating their own non-chronological reports and poems about predators that they have studied. We will also be writing our own speeches, play scripts and advertisements. This term, the children will also be taking part in the national '500 words' competition run through the BBC. Children will be spending time creating and writing their own adventure story to be submitted to the competition at half-term.

In guided reading sessions we will be focusing on word reading and text comprehension, we will be using the children's understanding of text types to apply the language and features to our own writing.

Children will also be receiving grammar lessons, where we will revise the different word classes and develop the understanding of sentence structure to add atmosphere and variety into their own writing.

We will be continuing with our daily handwriting and spelling lessons; handwriting lessons will focus on improving children's cursive skills, through developing their letter sizes, shapes and joins. Spelling lessons will focus on learning different spelling patterns, including prefixes and suffixes (-sion and -cion), as well as plural spelling rules,

Maths: We will be starting the term by looking at formal written methods (expanded and compact) to both divide and multiple 2-digit by 1-digit numbers. We will also be looking at money, children will learn how to total the prices of multiple objects as well as to give change from values up to £10.

We will also be learning to measure and calculate the perimeter and areas of different 2D shapes, after revising their properties and distinguishing between regular and irregular shapes. The class will be learning about collecting and presenting data in different ways when studying statistics.

Towards the end of the term children will be learning more about fractions, recognising, writing and finding fractions as well as comparing them to find equivalents.

It would be very beneficial for children to be practising their timestables (in and out of order) and rehearsing their addition and subtraction facts at home, so they can recall them quickly. Having greater fluency in these areas will allow for easier calculations when completing more advanced processes.

Science: This term's science learning will be about humans and animals and their nutrition in the first part of the term and skeletons and muscles during the second part. All of our science learning this term will be closely linked to our topic and will include learning about what a balanced diet is, what animals eat and how, looking at the contents of our foods and classifying foods into groups. Our skeletons and muscles topic will involve us developing our understanding of the function of the skeleton and how it works. How our skeletons differ from the skeletons of animals and how muscles work to ensure our skeletons work properly. on surfaces.

Topic: This term our topic is called 'Predators', throughout the topic we will be developing our geographical skills when locating and studying the different biomes (major habitat, i.e. tundra or forest) in the world and what creatures inhabit each area. We will also be looking into the adaptations that animals have to survive in their habitats and make them effective predators. The class will also be conducting research into different predators and carnivorous plants as well as looking into the history of where and why zoos were started in the UK.

On Monday mornings with Mrs Stanley, children will be designing their own food packaging for foods in DT, and in Art, they will be studying animal patterns and developing their sketching skills when studying birds.

Computing: This term our computing focus will be on programming and control. We will be using different programs on computers and iPads as well as Beebots and floor turtles, to create algorithms and learn how to debug in order to solve problems. The children will take part in a weekly lesson of ICT that will either develop these ICT skills or support our topic learning.

PE: This term Class 3 have a ten week block of swimming lessons on Wednesday mornings. This is to begin on Wednesday 10th of January. The children need a one piece costume or swimming trunks and a swimming hat. It is also very useful if all of the children's clothing is labelled. As noted in the letter sent home, if your child requires swimming goggles please send in a letter of confirmation for this.

Each Monday morning the children have a games lesson, with Mr Swift. For this they need suitable outdoor PE kit; black or blue shorts, white t-shirt, tracksuit and trainers. It would be unsafe for children to wear pumps or their shoe shoes for games.

RE: This term Class 3 will be looking at Religion in the Home and how Christians and Muslims follow their religion at home. They will look at what practices they follow at home and how important it is for these believers to practice their faith at home. We will also look at religious leaders and who is important to Christians and Muslims and what makes them great leaders.

French: Our unit of work this term is called "Les Quatre Amis" The Four Friends. Children will be responding to a French story, understand simple instructions, describing animals and making simple statements about movements.

Music: The children will be continuing their 'Rock-it' lessons with Mrs Baugh, every Tuesday afternoon to build on the success of the class band from last year.

Homework: In the same format as last term, children will be given a piece of either literacy or numeracy homework every Friday to be completed for the following Wednesday, in addition to their weekly spellings. It is also beneficial for children to be reading at home as much as possible, ideally at least three times a week, please make a note of any reading in your child's reading record book.

If you do wish to discuss anything further then please do not hesitate to see me before or after school, or to contact me via the school office or directly on staff20@croft.staffs.sch.uk.

Miss Tucker