



Class 3 Autumn Newsletter



Dear Parents

Welcome to Year 3! It is so lovely to welcome the children into the school once again. They have all shown a great attitude towards the new routines, and during the first few days they had big smiles on their faces! This newsletter is to inform you of the different things taking place this term 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 by email- staff04@croft.staffs.sch.uk.

Recovery Curriculum: As the children missed a large chunk of the Year 2 curriculum due to lockdown, we have planned a half term of 'recovery curriculum'. This means that before progressing onto the Year 3 work, we will be covering some of the essential Year 2 work first. Instead of teaching through our usual topic based curriculum in the first instance, we will be basing all of our learning on a series of texts. The texts that have been chosen specifically, as they not only give us the opportunity to cover important learning objectives in inspiring and fun ways, but they also enable us to support the children's wellbeing. The whole school are using the first text together, Kites by Simon Mole in order to unite us all together again as one school. After the first half term, we will be moving back to our usual topic based curriculum and delivering a predominantly Year 3 curriculum.



Topic: 'Time Travellers' is the name of our topic for the second half term. The children will be exploring how life changed from the Stone Age through to the Iron Age. Through our topic we will apply Geography skills using UK maps to locate areas that were inhabited by different groups of people and will look at how the British environment was changed by the introduction of farming. We will learn about changes in Britain throughout the Stone, 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 be creating our own Stone Age weapons and jewellery. In music lessons they will be creating their own music and learning about simple notation. The topic has been created with the Class 3 children in mind and will be guided by their interests while developing their skills.



Literacy: To link in with our Time Travel topic, the children will be using the text 'Ug' which is always popular, 'The Stone Age boy' and 'How to Wash your Mammoth'. They will be creating a range of fiction and non-fiction writing, based on these texts. Through this writing, 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, question 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 spelling tests 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.



Maths: In our maths lessons the children will be looking 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 begin to look at our 3 times table. On a weekly basis, the class will be using TT Rockstars to practice their tables. This is something that should be encouraged at home in order to help them make further progress. 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 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. Alternate weeks the children will be given maths homework, but they will also be given weekly tables to practice, these will be recorded in their homework diary.



Science: During the first half term the children will be exploring Rocks and Soils. They will identify the different types of rocks and test their durability, amongst other practical tasks. The second half term science learning will be about forces and magnets. We will be learning that a force is a push or pull and comparing how objects move on different surfaces. They will learn that most forces need contact between objects to act yet a magnet doesn't need to touch another magnetic material in order for a force to occur. 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.



Computing: This term we will be covering three different topics in computing: coding, online safety and spreadsheets. ICT will be taught as a stand-alone subject, but also embedded into other lessons throughout the week. By the end of the term the children will have experienced, creating their own computer programmes using the appropriate related vocabulary. They will be able to input data into a spreadsheet and use this to create graphs and charts.



PE: For the first term the class will only be having one PE slot, delivered by our sports coach. This takes place every Monday morning, and we are asking that the children come to school in PE kits and school jumpers. They remain in these all day. Can I also request that they do not wear jewellery on a Monday. In PE, the class will be developing their tennis skills and their outdoor and adventurous skills which will be focused on orienteering. If your child is unable to take part in PE then could you please provide a letter excusing them.



RE: In RE the children will be exploring rules for living that are found in sacred writings and teachings, and consider the impact that these teachings 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.



French: During French lessons the children will be focusing on two units: 'Greetings' and 'Farmers in his den'. In the 'greetings' topic the children will be learning about families, names and ages. The 'Farmers in his den' topic will see the children learning different French playground songs and recalling numbers up to 20.



Homework: 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 or email me 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.

Any many of you are aware, I am also the Deputy Head which means I am allocated designated management time. This will take place on a Tuesday morning and Mr Challinor will be covering the class. On a Monday morning, Mrs Stanley will be working with the children to cover my PPA time. Please feel free to inform them of anything that I need to know, or alternatively email me, as I do check my emails daily.

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

I am very much looking forward to working with my new class and their families

Thank you



Mrs K.Challinor