



Class 3 Spring Newsletter



Welcome back and Happy New Year, I hope you have had a lovely Christmas holiday! Mrs Knight and I would like to say thank you all so much for the cards, gifts and well wishes before Christmas, they were very thoughtful. This term brings a brand-new topic of Predators which I know the children will enjoy and I have lots of great things planned for them over the next few months.



Maths: The children will start the term on multiplication. They will be learning how to calculate multiplication in a written formal using vertical methods. We will continue to be practicing our tables and by the end of the term the children would have been taught their 3, 4 and 8 times tables. It's essential that the children keep practicing tables at home and accessing the TT Rockstars website which they all enjoy. Throughout all our maths topics, the children will be using their skills to solve different reasoning and problem-solving tasks - giving them the opportunity to apply their learnt skills. In addition to multiplication, division and tables, the class will also be learning about measures, including length, perimeter, mass and capacity. In the summer term, the children will be learning to tell time to the nearest five minutes and then nearest minute. It would be helpful if you could start encouraging your child to practice telling the time with analogue clocks as often as possible please.



Literacy: In our weekly reading sessions, we will be looking at a range of non-fiction writing. The children will be looking at note-making and researching a predator of their choice. They will be exploring the use of different text features such as images, caption, subheadings and different presentational features. They will also be exploring different sentence types and using a range of different conjunctions to link ideas, such as despite, although and however. The children are really enjoying writing, and they are embracing the sentence stacking lessons with enthusiasm. We have started a poetry unit, exploring the imagery used which they will then apply to their own poetry. We will then move onto a fiction book called "The Incredible Book eating boy". This humorous book gives the children the chance to explore a different author's writing style, commenting on their use of language and vocabulary. Each week the children will continue to practice spellings and we will begin by looking at prefixes and suffixes such as ful, ness, tele and sub. Class 3 love reading and they are a joy to listen to. Thank you for your support with listening to your children read on a regular basis. The children are developing a real love of books and they are excited to listen to our end of the day story. This term it is called 'The Boy who grew dragons.' by Phillip Ripley. The aim each week is to try and read 5 times a week. The impact this 'little and often' routine has on the children's reading ability is well research and encouraged.



Science: This half terms science learning will be about humans and animals and their nutrition, and then we will move onto skeletons and muscles. 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. We will investigate how our skeletons differ for the skeletons of animals and how muscles work to ensure our skeletons work properly.



Topic: Predator is the name of our new topic this term. Through our topic we will apply our Geography skills, using world maps to locate different world biomes. In History we will be looking at the important work of David Attenborough and how his work on animals has improved over time due to the development of technology. Mrs Stanley will continue to teach Art and DT. In Art they will explore texture, creating their own predator sketches and in DT they will be making recycled bird feeders. The topic has been created with Class 3 children in mind and will be guided by their interests while developing their skills. Each week, we will be continuing having Rock-It with Mrs Bough on a Thursday afternoon. They children have made amazing progress in their instrument playing and I look forward to them further improving in their performance as a class.

PSHE: Mr Moore will continue to teach PSHE to the children every Thursday. This term they will be covering 'Me and my safety' and 'Happy Healthy me'. As part of these topics the children will learn to recognize different risks in different situations, decide how to behave responsibly (e.g. sensible road use) and about acceptable and unacceptable physical contact. 'Happy and healthy me' will be all about balanced, healthy food choices.



Computing: The children will take part in a weekly lesson of ICT that will either support this learning or develop ICT skills through our topic. They will be learning how to create and use spreadsheets and also developing our typing skills. Embedded throughout this, and as a standalone unit will be online safety.



PE: On a Tuesday afternoon, the children have Nicci from Fusion Dance school coming in to complete a hip hop unit for 6 weeks. This is linked to using music and dance to help with our mental well-being. Our first session was fabulous - I even learned some new moves myself! Mr Hayes will be teaching PE on a Wednesday and they will be continuing games outdoors. For all lessons the children need suitable kit; black or blue shorts, white t-shirt, tracksuit and trainers. Please can I ask that no jewellery is worn on this day? If your child is unable to take part in PE then could you please provide a letter excusing them.



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



French: With Miss Paris this term, Class 3 will be learning vocabulary for days of the week, numbers up to 50, different sports and how to say which sports that they like and dislike. We will also start to write these words, learning that some words in French are masculine and others are feminine.



Homework: I will continue to give out homework on Friday, they will record this in their homework diary and should hand it in on Monday or Tuesday. Please remind your child to put it in the Homework box first thing in the morning. 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.

I hope that you have found this newsletter informative, but if you do have any more questions then please do not hesitate to see me before or after school or to contact me via the school office or directly on staff15@croft.staffs.sch.uk



Mrs Richards