



Class 3 Summer Newsletter



Welcome back to the final term of year 3! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and made the most of the fantastic weather we had! This term the children will be learning lots of new things in our new topic: Raging Rivers and Misty Mountains. This newsletter is to let you know about the things your child will be doing in school and how we can work together to ensure they make the best of their final term before year 4.



Maths: This term we continue to build upon the children's calculations skills, both mentally and in written forms, for all four rules of number. We will keep practicing times tables and corresponding division facts to ensure all of the children are secure on their 3, 4 and 8's. It would be very beneficial for the children to be practicing times tables, in and out of order, and rehearsing their addition and subtraction facts so that they can quickly recall them. In addition to finishing off fractions which we started at the end of the spring term, we will be working on time, length and perimeter and capacity. These topics give us lots of opportunity to complete practical activities in and out of the classroom. To support at home, you could get the children to practice telling the time using both digital and analogue clocks. There are lots of games also on the website - Topmarks along with TT Rockstars which Class 3 really enjoy!



Literacy: The children will continue to take part in weekly literacy, spelling, grammar, reading and creative writing lessons in order to develop their literacy skills. Our fiction text which we will be exploring is the classic 'The Wind in the Willows'. We will spend some time examining the language use and using it as a basis to widen the children's vocabulary. We will be looking at settings and the portrayal of characters and using this to write our own pieces of descriptive writing. They will be asked to use a range of different techniques in their writing such as similes, metaphors and alliteration and they will also be using adverbs and prepositions to explain cause and effect in their writing. We will look at poetry based on water and be writing our own river poems. The class will get the opportunity to explore the water cycle, and they will use this to learn how to write explanation texts. They will be reading a range of non-fiction texts based on rivers and mountains, exploring different presentational features that they can then apply to their own independent writing. The children will continue to learn the year 3 spelling words and will be revising using prefixes and suffixes such as 'super' and 'ly'. We have worked really hard on our handwriting and presentation so far this year and we are continuing to practice making joins in our writing whilst making sure small letters and tall letters are appropriately sized. If you could be encouraging this at home as well it would be a great support.

At some point during the day, I always aim to read to the children. This term we will be finishing off the text 'Krinklekrax' by Philip Ridley and then we will start 'The Abominables' by Eva Ibbotson. All of the children enjoy this part of the day and I know they will enjoy the adventures of the Yeti family in our new book! If any of the children have copies of these books at home, then they can bring them in and keep them in their tray to enjoy together during story time.



Science: This term's science learning will be about Forces and Magnets, and then moving onto Plants. In the first half term we will be exploring different forces and completing practical experiments to investigate the strengths of magnets. We will then move onto Plants, where we will be considering the functions of each part of the plant and looking into different forms of seed dispersal. Throughout this topic, I aim to get the children learning out doors as much as possible.



Topic: Misty Mountains and Raging Rivers. In this topic we will be researching human and physical features associated with Rivers. We will develop our map skills by locating British and World rivers, and finding out different facts about them. We will look at the features of a river and how rivers change over time. As we go through the term, we will start to explore different mountains from around the world, and be investigating how mountains are formed. The children will also consider uses of rivers and mountains and the impact that tourists have on them. As part of Art, the children will be painting using water colors, and looking into some of the most famous watercolour artists. In DT, they will design and build shelters suitable for outdoor adventurers, exploring the most suitable materials to use and investigating the best way to join them. In French lessons we will be looking at the points of a compass and using directional language. Our weekly PSHE lessons will focus on the topic 'Me and other people' and then 'Me and the World'. Both of these, provide us with lots of opportunity to discuss our roles as citizens and to learn about being a good role model for others.



Computing: The children are really enthused by Purple Mash and during the lockdowns they have become really confident users. This term we will be using Purple Mash to learn Coding. They will learn how to input a series of instructions to perform different tasks such as presenting 3 cars in a race and one wins.



PE: This term the children will continue to have PE on a Wednesday morning with Miss Cole. Class 3 are really good at remembering to remove jewellery and to come in their school jumpers, so thank you for your support with this.



Homework: I will continue to set the homework on a Friday to be returned on a Monday. The children are asked to put their homework in the homework box each Monday for it to be marked. Spelling and times tables tests will remain on a Friday and the children have been really motivated by the 'Double Bubble Challenge' and the reward of a golden token! As a result of the recent reading assessments, I have been able to move children further up the reading scheme where appropriate. In order for your child to continue making progress, can I ask that you listen to your child at least 3-4 times a week please? This extra practice will have a huge impact on your child's reading and ensure they make the appropriate progress through the Oxford Reading Tree scheme.

If you do wish to discuss anything further with me as we go through the next term, then please do not hesitate to email me on staff04@croft.staffs.sch.uk

Thank you for your continued support during the last two terms. I am very much looking forward to working with the Year 3 families during our final term together.



Mrs Challinor