

Year 3 Curriculum Letter - Autumn 2 2021

Dear Parents/Caregivers

We hope you had a relaxing half term break!

This newsletter will provide you with information on the half term ahead. If you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes,

The Year 3 team



3LM- Laura McPherson

3LS - Lydia Saunders

3CB - Christian Booth

3JK - Juliet Kirk

Geography

Our Geography topic this half term is Mountains and Volcanoes. This is a brand new topic where we will be looking closely at Mount Everest and those who have conquered it. We'll cover how mountains are formed and where the main ranges and seven summits are found using various maps. We'll then look at and map various volcanoes, discover how and why a volcano erupts and look at where they are located. We will focus on life around a volcano and investigate how life might be impacted when living by a volcano. We'll end this unit with a look at earthquakes. What can you find out about volcanoes, mountains and earthquakes at home?

English

This term in English, we will begin by focusing on the text 'The Tin Forest'. This is a book that looks at being more environmentally aware and links perfectly with the COP26 event. We will be using this book to help develop children's writing skills within the context of non-fiction, writing non-chronological reports, persuasive writing and narrative. We'll also be reading 'Escape from Pompeii' a fictional interpretation of the famous Mt. Vesuvius eruption. Finally, we'll end the term with 'The Pied Piper of Hamelin' by Michael Morpurgo. This is a beautiful retelling of the classic children's tale, with a happier ending than the traditional story. To support children in their developing literacy skills, we will continue to do daily comprehension, reading and spelling activities.

Maths

Our first focus for the half term will be addition and subtraction. We will be using a combination of concrete (with equipment), pictorial and written methods to solve problems involving addition and subtraction. We'll then be moving on to multiplication and division where we'll be focusing grouping and sharing. We will be continuing the weekly mental maths 'rocket' test. Please continue to support your child at home by helping them to practise their maths facts and times tables. We will continue to update Mathletics to reflect our learning in class.

Science

Our topic for this half term is *Light*. We will be learning about different sources of light, and that we need light to see. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate reflective materials, and work in a hands-on way to find out more about reflective surfaces. They will develop scientific enquiry skills, make observations, predictions and draw conclusions.

Rough daily timetable:

9:00-9:30 Reading

9:30-10:45 English

BREAK

11:05-12:15 Maths

LUNCH

1:30-2:30

Topic/Science/Computing/P.E/Art/PSHE

2:30-3:20

Topic/Science/Computing/P.E/Art/PSHE

Dates for the diary:

December 16th: Christmas Parties

December 17th: Last day of term - 2.00pm finish.

Nature Garden Day: Thursday

On Nature Garden day, your child will need to bring suitable clothing and footwear to school (wellies, waterproof clothes etc).

PE days: 3LS - Tuesday & Friday

3CB - Monday and Tuesday

3LM - Monday & Wednesday

On PE days, PE kits must be worn to school, especially trainers. Please ensure that your child's clothing is appropriate, comfortable and suited to the weather conditions that day, particularly as it is getting colder.