

## Important Information

### **CAT Day**

Year 3 CAT Day is held on a Thursday, once a fortnight. The dates for this term are: 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 9<sup>th</sup> March, and 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Children will take part in a Drama, Art/DT and Talking & Writing session. Therefore all children should wear clothes suitable for creative activities and ones which allow the children to move easily.

### **Book Bags**

Please remind your child to bring their book bag to school every day. Within their book bag they should have their spelling book, reading book and reading record book. If your child does not have a book bag they are available to purchase in the school office for £4.00.

### **Chess**

This year, every child in Year 3 is going to have chess lessons. 'Chess in Schools' will deliver a 45 minute lesson to each Year 3 class, every Friday. Chess has shown that it develops problem solving skills, enhances the player's memory and fosters creative thinking. Let your child teach you how to play chess at home!

### **Homework**

In Year 3, we expect children to complete the following homework daily:

- Read their reading book to an adult or older sibling. Please sign your child's reading record book and where possible, make a comment about their reading.
- Practise counting in multiples of a number and lead on to recalling their multiplication and division facts rapidly.
- Learn their spellings and their meanings ready for their spelling test on Friday. Ideas to support your child with this are at the back of the spelling book.

Your children will be set a piece of mathematics and a piece of English homework each week. This will consolidate and extend the skills taught during that week. Homework will be set on a Friday and must be returned by the end of the day on Wednesday. We encourage your child to complete their homework to support them in their learning. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any comments regarding the homework being given.

In addition to this, your child will also be given the opportunity to complete a piece of Project Homework. This piece of homework is set each month and the children are asked to individually interpret the theme that is given to them. The deadline for each piece of Project Homework will be published in the newsletter each week, alongside the current theme. Please encourage your child to vary the style of their homework from project to project.

If you require any further information, please speak to your child's class teacher or to the Lower KS2 Assistant Head Teacher, Mr Smith.

Thank you for your continued support.

# Year 3

## Curriculum Information



## Spring Term 2017

## English

Your child will take part in daily English lessons, alongside Park Writes where we expect the children to write at length on a given theme.

The children will be covering various fiction and non-fiction genres across this term. The first journey will be Portal stories which involve moving from one reality to another, e.g. Narnia and Alice in Wonderland. The non-fiction genre this term will be explanation and instructional texts. We are also continuing to use 'Talk 4 Writing' in order to improve children's writing. They will be encouraged to talk about their ideas in order to develop them, develop their vocabulary and improve their understanding of sentence structure.

Your child will also have daily reading sessions where they will work on skills such as asking questions to develop their understanding of a text, make predictions and inferring a characters feelings and thoughts based on their actions.



### Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Encourage your child to use their weekly spellings in writing to show their understanding of the meaning.
- Take your child to the library and encourage them to find Portal stories and make links between the features.
- Read to your child as well as listening to them read. They learn from the way others read!
- Practise talking about each step of a certain task, such as cooking dinner or walking to school. These will help the structure of an instructional text.

## P.E.

In Year 3, your child will be learning to swim. They will attend a 30 minute session every Tuesday. During this time they will learn how to stay safe around water. This includes pool-side safety and swimming skills.

### Ideas for supporting your child at home:

Your child would really benefit from practising the skills they are learning in their lessons. Take your child to Atherton Leisure Centre for them to show you their swimming skills.

## Computing

The children will be developing their data handling skills by inputting data into an excel spreadsheet. They will then use this data to create a bar chart to represent their information.

### Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Encourage your child to practise typing on a keyboard to enable them to recognise the position of each letter.
- Become more aware of Excel and practise using the different features.

## Year 3 - Spring 2017

## Mathematics

The children in Year 3 will continue to develop their fluency, reasoning and problem solving skills with the use of 'Maths-No Problem!' In order for all children to learn towards mastery, we will continue to teach topics over longer periods of time.

This term, the children's learning will centre around multiplication and division. We will build upon our knowledge of addition and subtraction and make links between these and multiplication and division. We will also focus on measurement this term. This will involve length, volume, mass, money and time.

### Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Practise counting in multiples of 3, 4 and 8.
- Practise the recall of multiplication and division facts for the times table your child is learning. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you would like to know which times table your child is learning.
- Practise using the bar model as a visual representation for division and multiplication problems.
- Encourage your child to start telling the time to 5 minute intervals. E.g. It is 5 minutes past 4.
- When shopping, allow your child to calculate totals and change.
- Estimate the length of different objects. What measuring tool would they use?
- Use the mathematics page on our website to access fun mathematics games.



## Learning Challenge Curriculum

This year we will continue to deliver the **science, history and geography** curriculum through a series of Learning Challenges.

This term, your child will be exploring the following challenges:

- **'What do rocks tell us about the way the Earth was formed?'** Children will learn how different rocks are formed, what fossils are and where they come from and the different organic matter of soils.
- **'Why has Greece always been in the news?'** Our History and Geography learning challenges will be linked. We will talk about the History of Greece as well as the physical and human geography of the country.
- **Science Week** The children will take part in a week long investigation. During this time they will follow the process of planning, carrying out and analysing the results of an investigation.

### Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Use a range of resources to research the history of Greece. What do you find the most interesting? Bring in anything you have found to add to our working wall.
- Generate questions about Greece. What do you want to find out about? Bring in the questions.
- Visit the Park and look at the different types of rocks and soils. Are they all the same? What is different about them?
- Take a trip to the Natural History Museum and look at the different fossils. What was the most fascinating?

## R.E.

Children will be discussing why symbols and sayings are important across religions. They will be answering the following questions:

- What is the significance of light in religion?
- How and why do Hindus celebrate Holi?

Please talk to your child about other religions and the similarities and differences between them.