

Dear year 3 parents and carers,

We have had a wonderful first half term with our classes and cannot wait to continue learning new and exciting topics over the coming half term. We have outlined our curriculum plan for the second half of the autumn term below:

Reading

In our Destination Reader lessons, we will continue to focus on different reading strategies such as predicting, clarifying, inferring, making connections, evaluating, summarising and asking questions about texts. This half term, our main text is *Windrush Child*, by Benjamin Zephaniah.

Writing

In the first week back, the children will be studying poetry around the theme of *Remembrance*. We will be exploring poetic language, such as similes and metaphors. For the remainder of the half term, we are learning how to write a *discussion text*. The children will be looking at the language and structural features of this type of text, such as writing in the present tense, third person, using connecting phrases and given reasons.

Maths

During this term we are exploring addition and subtraction strategies. These will build on strategies taught in year 2 but in the context of 3-digit numbers. We will then complete a unit on multiplication and division, during which we will be learning and consolidating our 2, 3, 4, 5, 8- and 10-times tables.

History

We will continue exploring the Stone Age to the Iron Age. This half term, children will begin to explore the Iron Age and compare it to life in the Ancient Egyptian civilisation. At the end of the term children will take part in a debate about which era they would prefer to live in and why.

Religious Education

We will be focussing on Christianity and the Christmas story. Our “big question” for this unit is: *Has Christmas lost its true meaning?*

Physical Education

Throughout this half term we will be focusing on gymnastics and how we safely use apparatus. The unit is called: *Stretching, curling and arching*. Some of the shapes we will focus on include the tuck, straddle, pike, bridge and straight stand. *N.B. Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate clothing for PE days, or has a PE kit with them at school that day. Gymnastics will generally be done barefoot.*

PSHE

In PSHE we are looking at families and friendships. The children will learn about strategies they can use to manage friendships and ways they can identify and value similarities and differences between themselves and their classmates.

Science

We will be concluding our unit of work on plants and will then be learning all about *Animals including humans*. We will look at the importance of getting the right types and amounts of food, before investigating the importance of our skeletons and how they are vital for support, protection and movement.

Computing

Within computing we will be building on our knowledge of Scratch and coding and the children will be learning how to programme an *Ohbot!* This is a robot that emulates human face movements that has been designed to stretch pupils' computational thinking and understanding of computer science.

Dates for your diary:

- **Parents evenings** - Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th November (Non-SEND) and Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd November (SEND).
- **Year 3 and 4 Winter Concert** - Monday 18th December at 2pm.

Supporting at home

- Reading – The children have been given a colour band of books which are appropriate for their level of comprehension. Children should complete a book quiz after they have finished each book. Please encourage your child to read daily.
- Spelling and handwriting – Please encourage your child to practise their spellings (with the correct letter formation). It is important that they are not only able to learn them for a spelling test, but that they are also using the correct spelling when writing the words in sentences.
- Maths – Children should be regularly practising their times tables and quick recall of known facts (e.g. halving/doubling, number bonds (to 10/to 20/to 100))

We look forward to continuing working with you and your children this half term!

Kind Regards,

Jenny Vincent and Mr Ershan