



Year 3 Autumn Newsletter 2019

Welcome back! We hope you have had a great Summer holiday break and are refreshed and energised for the new year.

Indeed, we are looking forward to another excellent term: This newsletter will explain all the amazing new topics that your child will be learning and some useful tips to help maximise their progress and enjoyment.

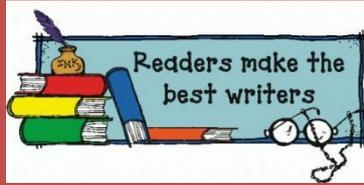
Our classrooms promote learning in a stimulating, engaging way that allows children to enjoy every school day as much as they possibly can.

Our trip this term will be to the Museum of London. In addition, we will be taking a field trip to Walthamstow Marshes to explore what life would have been like in the stone age.

If you have any comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us as we would like to continue our excellent home-school relationships, and aim to provide high-quality information, clear communication and an 'open-door' policy. Should you find it difficult to speak to us before or after school, please feel free to telephone us via the school office on 020 8520 6267.

Thank you for all your support. We look forward to an exciting term with your children!

Miss Townsend and Miss Arribet



Literacy



Our topic this term will be 'The Stone Age to the Iron Age.' Using this stimulus, the children will be writing diary entries, descriptive recounts and reports. Our class text will be 'Ug' and 'Stone Age Boy'. In the second half of the term we will be exploring Traditional Tales including 'The Tinderbox' by Hans Christian Anderson and 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Browne.

Moreover, in Whole Class Reading we will be exploring different fiction and non-fiction books by practising the different skills to comprehend these texts. We will discuss ideas and themes and rehearse how to answer specific question based on these texts.

Please give your child opportunities to read independently and aloud to practise expression. We encourage a level of independence with this: your child will be reminded, but it is their responsibility to change their books. We appreciate how much support you give your children with reading. Please continue to read at home as much as possible. The expectation is that your child reads for at least 20 minutes each day. You could ask them questions about their reading to further develop their understanding of the text that they are reading. If you would like further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

The children will be taught grammar as part of their literacy lessons, together with spelling strategies – **a test will conducted every Friday.**

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their literacy skills:

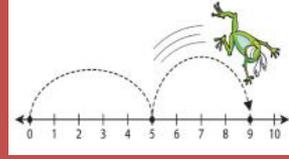
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/>

<https://uk.ixl.com/ela/year-3>

<http://www.ictgames.com/literacy.html>



Mathematics



This term in Maths, the children will continue to learn a range of different topics:

- Number – Understanding place values
- The four operations (Addition; Subtraction; Multiplication; Division). The children will also be solving worded problems and exploring the language of maths.

Continuing our drive to make children confident mathematicians, we will be focusing on the skill explaining our answers as well as solving them.

For example: *'I know that $4 \times 4 = 16$ because...'* *'Therefore I know that 400×400 will be...'*

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their maths skills:

Please continue to support your child with their maths at home! We are big believers that mental maths is the key to a greater understanding of mathematics. Therefore, it is the expectation that after half term, children will practise their given multiplication tables every day.

Maths homework will be set every Friday.

Useful websites for maths practise

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zsjqtfr>

www.topmarks.co.uk

<https://www.mathsisfun.com/> The 'Math Trainer' is especially good at practising their times tables at speed.

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2numeracy.html>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/timestable/interactive.htm>

<http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>



Science



Our topic this term is Rocks, Soils and Fossils. We will be looking at how rocks tell us about the way the earth was formed. We will be looking at different types of soil and the qualities which make them useful for different purposes. Finally, we will research different types of fossils and understand their importance in being evidence that life on this planet dates back millions of years.

If you would like to help your children discover more about this topic, visit the following site:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z9bbkqt>



Humanities



This term, our topic is 'Who first lived in Great Britain'. As part of this unit your children will be learning all about the stone age, the longest period of human development, and the transition to the bronze age and finally the iron age. They will learn how early man lived and what life was like then.

This topic will form the basis of our Home Learning Project, where children will research and create different objects from the stone age. For more information, please look at the Home Learning Project sheet for further information.



Computing

In computing we will be looking at simple coding programs on the computer using Scratch. They will learn to make animated jokes. We will also be using the computers to research our history topic.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their computing skills:

www.scratch.mit.edu

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.kidsmart.org.uk

www.code.org

www.kodugamelab.com



Home Learning

Homework will be set every Friday, due in the following Wednesday.

- Weekly Maths homework
- Weekly spellings to be tested in class each Friday.
- Daily reading. Children should read aloud to their parents or carers and discuss the storyline. Many pupils will enjoy reading by themselves; however it is important that children still engage with their parents about the book and discuss the storyline, as this is the best way of checking that children understand what they are reading and that they are pronouncing words correctly.
- Home Learning Project – stone age research.