

# Year 3 Spring Newsletter 2016

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back, I hope you all had an enjoyable and restful holiday. Year 3 had a very positive Autumn term and have settled in well to this new term. I'm sure this will continue as the term goes on.

Below is a summary of this term's topics:

**Literacy** We have already started a new topic, reading the Iron Man by Ted Hughes. Children have written diary entries and a letter. We will continue by reading the rest of the text, writing newspaper articles, acting out scenes and writing persuasive texts. As the term continues children will be studying information texts and shape poetry.

**Spellings** Your child will continue to be given different spellings every Friday afternoon to take home with them that are based on the spelling and grammar work covered in lessons. Please continue to encourage your children to practise their spellings each night for ten minutes using the 'look, cover, write, check method' on their sheet. The children are tested every Friday.

**Homework:** The class will continue to be given one piece of maths homework each Friday. Please do encourage and support your child where necessary with this and remind them of the importance of completing the homework set. If there is ever a problem with homework being completed, please do come and see me about it in the morning.

**Reading:** The children are given guided reading books which they will read as part of their guided reading session in class. This book will be taken home so that they can read this book with you to practise any difficult language and to ensure they have a good understanding of what they are reading. Please note down your thoughts on their reading in their reading record book. Please ensure these books are kept safe, ideally in their book bags so they have them when they need them. Regretfully, you will have to pay for a replacement book if they are lost.

**Numeracy** This term the children have been learning about fractions and shape. We will now be progressing on to more challenging addition, subtraction, multiplication and division sums and word problems. Therefore, it's really important for the children to have a secure knowledge and understanding of basic addition, subtraction and their times tables in order to progress well.

Please support your child at home by practising the 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 x table for 5-10 minutes every day. The children can learn their tables by writing

them out, chanting and through being questioned. For example:

$3 \times 5 =$       How many 2's are there in 18?       $5 \times \underline{\quad} = 50.$

There is a weekly times tables test on Thursday. Your child is aware of the table they are learning. Children will be moved onto the next times tables when they get 15 + correct out of 20.

**Science**      In science this term we are looking at magnets and forces. Your child will soon be receiving their home challenge pack which will include activities on this topic. These are to be completed at home to support learning.

**Computing**      In Computing, we will be using the app 'Explain Everything' where the children are creating a presentation based on our enquiry topic which they will present to the class.

**P.E.**      P.E. kits need to be brought in on Mondays, to ensure they have their kit for the week. Please make sure your child has the correct kit. This term we will be covering hockey and circuits.

**Enquiry Curriculum**      Our topic this term is Islands with a particular focus on The Isle of Skye and St. Lucia. We will be making comparisons between the two islands and also thinking about the differences between these places and London. You can support your child by going to the library or using the internet to research these islands.

**R.E.**      This term we are focussing on the question 'Who was Jesus?'

**Music**      We are continuing learning the recorder and djembe drums with our specialist music teachers this term.

**PSHE**      We will be starting a new topic in Enabling Enterprise called 'Making Changes' where children will be developing their own campaign project to improve an aspect of school life.

If you have any questions or concerns you wish to discuss with me about your child's development and experiences at school, please feel free to make an appointment to come and see me. I am looking forward to the term ahead and hope that together we can continue to make a positive contribution to your child's education.

Kindest regards,  
Rebecca Maskell  
Year 3 Teacher