

## Year 3 Newsletter

Welcome to the first term in Year 3! This half term, we are looking forward to learning about the following exciting topics:

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MATHS</b></p> <p><b>Place Value (to 1,000):</b> Represent, partition, estimate on number lines, count in 50s, compare/order up to 1,000;</p> <p><b>Addition &amp; Subtraction:</b> Formal written methods (column), mental strategies, estimation, inverse operations;</p> <p><b>Multiplication &amp; Division:</b> Times tables (2, 3, 4, 5, 8), arrays, grouping, multiplication/division facts, word problems.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ENGLISH</b></p> <p><b>Narrative:</b> We will be studying the book <i>Juniper Jupiter</i> by Lizzie Stewart. This is about a young girl who happens to be a superhero. She's brave, kind, and has all the powers you'd expect, but she feels lonely because she doesn't have a sidekick. The story follows her search for the perfect companion, showing that true friendship is the greatest superpower of all.</p> <p><b>Non-chronological Reports:</b> We will learn about the features of a NCR before writing one about an animal.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SCIENCE</b></p> <p><b>Plants</b></p> <p>This half-term we will be looking at the wonderful world of plants. We will build on the children's learning from Year 1 and Year 2 and then look at life cycle of a plant. Specifically, we study pollination, fertilisation and seed-dispersal.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COMPUTING</b></p> <p><b>Connecting Computers</b></p> <p>I will be challenging the children to develop their understanding of digital devices, with an initial focus on inputs, processes, and outputs. We start by comparing digital and non-digital devices, before introducing them to computer networks that include network infrastructure devices like routers and switches.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HISTORY</b></p> <p><b>Stone Age to Iron Age</b></p> <p>In this unit, pupils will learn about how life in Britain changed from the Stone Age to the Iron Age and begin to understand the order of events in the past. They will spot similarities and differences between the three periods, using the right historical words to describe tools, homes and ways of living. Children will ask and answer questions about how and why things changed and what was important. They will also discover how we know about the past using artefacts and archaeological finds.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GEOGRAPHY</b></p> <p><b>North America</b></p> <p>We start our Geography lessons by looking at North America on maps, exploring countries and the states within it. We then move on to exploring the physical geography of the Rocky mountains. Finally, we look at human geography by contrasting New York City and Manchester.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MUSIC</b></p> <p><b>Ballads</b></p> <p>In our music lessons, the children will develop skills in listening carefully to music, describing elements such as timbre, dynamics, texture, and metre. Excitingly, the children will also have the chance to compose and perform their own music, singing and playing with increasing accuracy, control, and awareness of others in the group. Artists that we look at are David Bowie, Whitney Houston and Brian Adams!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PE</b></p> <p><b>Gymnastics</b></p> <p>We will be looking at performing different jumps focusing on take-off and landing. Also, we will try to make shapes whilst in the air.</p> <p><b>Handball</b></p> <p>I will aim to develop the children's ability to throw and catch before moving on to improving their ability to pass the ball to retain possession.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ART / DT</b></p> <p><b>Drawing</b></p> <p>Throughout this term we are looking at drawing. Specifically, we will be improving the children's ability to observe shapes, textures or patterns in objects. We will then work on shading with accuracy to help should texture and detail. Our final piece will be looking to create a design inspired by the sun.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>R.E</b></p> <p><b>What is it like for someone to follow God?</b></p> <p>Pupils will learn about the Old Testament and how people lived their lives. They will learn the stories of Noah Abraham and the covenant that Christians believe they made with God. They will also spend time looking at several texts that share stories from the Old Testament. Finally, they will consider why following God might sometimes feel hard for believers.</p>

## MESSAGES AND REMINDERS

**PE** is on a Tuesday and Thursday. Children must come to school in their PE kit on those days. They are able to wear it for the full day. If it is cold and or wet, please dress them sensibly for the conditions.

**HOMEWORK** In Year 3, homework will consist of 2 Mathematics tasks and 30 minutes of Reading Plus (these both should take about an hour in total over the week). Weekly spellings will be written in reading diaries and should be practiced at home ready for a test every Friday. In addition to this, the children will also be given a Topic homework every half-term. We set this to encourage the children to take responsibility over their learning, enable the children to go into greater depth in a topic and also to allow them time to show off the standard of their work. This is meant to be fun and can be a whole family affair if you want!

**READING** I want the children to love reading so do not want to make it a chore for them. There is an expectation within the school for the children to read 3 times a week with an adult. However, I trust your judgement of your child. Personally, I would prefer them to enjoy a book read together with an adult rather than demanding them to read independently. If your child struggles with reading, spend time reading to them, helping them to spot words they can read themselves and fostering a love for books. If your child is a proficient reader and enjoys reading by themselves, please do 'check in' with them to listen to their reading fluency, address any mistakes they may make and also check comprehension of the text. Please sign their diary to show they have completed this and maybe tell me some books you have enjoyed together (and send it every Friday).

**BOOK CHANGE** will take place whenever your child finishes their book. Just ask them to come and see either myself or Mrs Birchall first thing in the morning and we will sign their books in and out. I will be giving them a book suitable for their level and also allowing them to take a book from our library. They may need help to enjoy this book so do not expect them to read it independently.

**TIMES TABLES** will be tested frequently in year 3. By the end of Year 3, your child is expected to have learnt 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables. School have subscribed to TT Rockstars App to help but simple counting games can be just as effective.

**DOJO** I am available to be contacted on DOJO from 8am till 5pm, Monday - Friday. This is also a platform where I will share important information, reminders and most importantly, pictures of the children having fun in school. Please check is regularly to keep up to date in the classroom.

Many thanks.  
Mr Chesworth