

Year Three: Autumn 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 3! We are really excited for the year ahead and have lots of interesting topics planned as part of our 'glittering curriculum', including a very special trip this term!

This term we will be exploring the Stone Age and Early Settlements. We will consider how people lived and compare their ancient world with our modern one. We will also look at the topics 'light' and 'rocks' in science. We will be carrying out scientific enquiries through asking relevant questions, comparing answers and setting up fair tests. The majority of our learning is cross-curricular so that we can fully immerse the children through our art projects and writing in English. Please refer to the curriculum map for further information on this term's learning.

You will be able to view photos of children's learning and keep updated with any information you may need via Class Dojo. Please also feel free to direct any questions or messages you have for us regarding your child's learning through Class Dojo too and we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

English

Twice weekly, the children will participate in Read, Write Inc. spelling lessons where they will be consolidating their learning from Year 2 and building on this by learning new spelling rules and common exception words. They will also explore grammatical terminology as well as a range of punctuation. Furthermore, the children will participate in two Guided Reading lessons a week where they will practise their reading skills including: retrieval, prediction, discussion and inference, and gain experience of reading aloud.

English lessons will be based around core texts. These will provide the children with lots of opportunity to develop their comprehension and writing skills. The children will explore characters, settings and be encouraged to develop their own opinions about each text. Each writing lesson will involve a particular grammatical focus and will enable the children to develop fluency and cohesion and the children will produce extended pieces of writing across genres such as informative news reports and entertaining narratives. You will find the names of our core texts for this term on our curriculum map.

Reading

We will assess your child's reading and comprehension at the beginning of the term. Children should be reading at home for approximately **15-20 minutes per night**, and this should be recorded in their reading records. Please ensure that your child has their reading book and record with them in school **every day**. If children choose a reading book from school, we will change books once a week (every Wednesday).

Supporting your child's learning

Please use these ideas to support your child when reading their books with you at home:

- Encourage your child to discuss what they have read and seen in books
- Ask questions about what has happened/how the character may feel and why
- Discuss with your child the author's choice of words and intentions

Maths

In Maths, we are using the 'Maths – No Problem' scheme. To begin with we are looking at counting in hundreds, tens and ones to 1,000. This will also involve discussing place value, comparing and ordering numbers as well as number patterns. We will then focus on addition and subtraction. This will involve mental strategies based on number facts and move on to the formal written column method. We will finish by looking at word problems involving addition and subtraction to 1,000.

This term, our times tables focus is the four times table and the eight times table. We introduce each times table at the beginning of the term by making it with concrete resources. Afterwards we discuss the patterns we can see and use our knowledge of other times tables to commit it to memory. We practise our times tables at least once a week.

Supporting your child's mathematical learning at home:

- Look for and discuss patterns and similarities in the 4 and 8 times tables
- Seek opportunities to use applied mathematics: converting recipe ingredients, calculating change in shops or calculating journey times

Physical Development & Outside Learning

It is important that children have their school PE kit (including trainers) in school (in a draw-string bag) with them each week. Our PE lessons are on Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons, plus we have Yoga on Monday afternoons.

On Thursdays we will be visiting the garden where we will continue to develop our Science learning.

Trips

Friday 15th October – Butser Ancient Village

If you are able to help with this trip please contact us on Dojo. We always welcome your support.

Reminders

- Please ensure that your child brings their book bag to school every day.
- Please ensure that all items of clothing, including PE Kits, are **clearly labelled** with your child's name

- Please ensure your child has their hair tied back and that they are not wearing jewellery (beyond simple stud earrings - if required).
- Please ensure that your child has a jumper and waterproof jacket in school.
- Please ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school every day.

Kind regards,

Miss Gardner (Cotton class teacher) and Miss Khatun (Linen class teacher)

Angel Castillo (Teaching assistant)