

# Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

## Summer Term 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This term, the children in Year 3 will be covering all aspects of the National Curriculum including:

### **Mathematics**

During this term our maths work will cover the units: Length, fractions, time, angles, properties of shape, mass and capacity.

Alongside this the children will also be working on problem solving and learning the 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

### **English**

This term in our English lessons we will be covering the following units:

**Fiction:** Create settings, characters and plot. Traditional and adventure stories.

**Non-Fiction:** Diary entries, instructions and non-chronological reports.

**Poetry:** Poetry on a theme.

As well as this, we will be continuing to develop our reading and comprehension skills, and applying our current and new spelling, punctuation and grammar knowledge throughout the curriculum.

### **Science**

The Year 3 Science topics this term are 'Plants' and 'Light'. During our Plants unit, children will study the parts of flowering plants and their functions, the conditions affecting plant growth and plants as living things. In their unit about light children will identify light sources and discuss the Sun, establish that light is reflected off things that we see and that darkness is an absence of light and finally make enquiries about shadows.

### **Cross-curricular Work**

Our cross-curricular topic this term is Incredible Egyptians. The children will learn about how and where the ancient Egyptians lived, what was important to the daily lives of ancient Egyptians and who Tutankhamun was. The children will also learn about how Egyptian people used hieroglyphs to communicate and compare the powers of different gods. We will visit Durham Oriental Museum to handle real ancient Egyptian artefacts and learn how mummies were made.

### **Design and Technology**

During our Design Technology lessons, we will be studying the shaduf (shadoof) and about its importance to the ancient Egyptians. They will design and make their own version of a shaduf to extract water from a water source.

### **Art and Design**

Our art work will take place through our Incredible Egyptians topic. We will teach the children about how to use a pencil, pen and charcoal, how to make clay faces and model in paper and papier-mâché to create quality art work that shows progression in their skills. The children will also have the opportunity to explore the work of Leger, Hockney and a photograph taken by Man Ray.

**Personal, Social, Health Education**

Our topics in PSHE this term are Relationships and Feelings. We will also be continuing our work on 'Great Dream' and completing our Godfrey and Lucinda unit of work on Feelings.

**Religious Education**

In RE, this term, we will be studying: The Jewish religion where the children will learn about Jewish beliefs, practices and celebrations, including Shabbat and Hanukah. They will also learn about the Islamic festival of Eid-UI-Fitr.

**Physical Education**

We will be covering aspects of athletics, focusing upon running and throwing events; and outdoor adventure activities, focusing upon problem solving, following directions and navigating using maps. Indoor PE shoes must be non-marking. When the children go outside to do PE, a hooded jacket/jumper will also be allowed. PE usually takes place on a Thursday morning, however PE kits should be in school on a Monday in case any last minute changes are made.

**Computing**

The children will explore rainforests through new Virtual Reality (VR) apps. They will also create their own interactive learning games for younger children to play. Children will also master the art of using a keyboard and short cuts with a series of fun activities.

**Music**

Our music lessons will take place through our Incredible Egyptians topic. During our music lessons, children will learn to keep a steady pulse to recorded music and songs. The children will learn about repeated patterns and perform using tuned instruments. Children will also explore different sounds of instruments and will learn how music can fit together in layers by singing and playing with a drone accompaniment, and by fitting together two parts of a round.

**Homework**

Homework will be given out on Friday to be returned by the following Wednesday morning ready for marking. This will include an activity linked to our 'Chilli Challenge homework grid' which consists of English, Maths, Science and Topic activities along with spellings.

Spelling lists and activities will be given out every two weeks. Week 1, the aim is to complete the spelling activity and practise the spellings. Week 2, the aim is for the children to write the words in a sentence to show they understand the meaning of each word as well as practising the spellings. Spellings should be practised daily as spelling tests will take place every Wednesday morning.

Children are also expected to read at least four times a week (school home-loan or own books) and write a comment in their reading record. *The comment should be a sentence about what they have read or could be a prediction about what they think will happen next.* A comment or signature from a parent/carer would also encourage the children to read. We will be checking reading records every Wednesday along with homework books, children who have four comments will receive a star. 10 stars can be exchanged for a small treat.

Children are also expected to learn their times tables. Times tables challenges will take place each week linking to the following tables: 2,3,4,5,8,10. Please do continue to access TimeTable RockStars online through internet explorer or safari as each child has been given their own unique login. (This can be found at the back of their reading records!)

We would appreciate it if you could check your child's homework before it is returned to school. If you have any questions or if you would like to support us in school, please do not hesitate to contact us.

***Many Thanks from the Year 3 Team***  
***Miss Buckley and Miss Hetherington***