



COBHAM
Primary School



Year 3 Newsletter

7th January 2019

YEAR 3 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and welcome to the start of Term 3. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas break and are well rested for the exciting terms ahead. Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of Mrs Clarke, Miss Styles and myself, to say a massive thank you for the wonderful cards and presents that we received at the end of last year! It was so thoughtful and generous; we were overwhelmed - thank you so very much! I am really pleased to welcome Miss Courtney to the Year 3 team as Miss Styles moves to support Class 1.

Here is a summary of the work we will be covering in Terms 3 and 4.

In **English** we will be studying texts such as *Into the Woods* by Anthony Brown as well as reading a range of other fictional texts and poems. We also spend time exploring non-fiction books about extreme weathers. We will be using texts, such as these, to inspire written work after having the opportunity to explore them using spoken language, hot seating and drama (creating more wonderful videos!). Written tasks will focus on developing spelling, punctuation and grammar within writing genres that include recounts, narratives, diaries, letters, newspaper reports, non-fiction reports, information texts and poems, along with a variety of comprehension activities.

In **Maths**, we will be developing concepts to embed and revise, as well as learning new concepts. These are the concepts we will be covering this term:

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|--------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Number - Multiplication and Division | Measurement: Money | Statistics | Measurement: length and perimeter | Number - Fractions | Consolidation |
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Playing board games and quick recall games on Mathematics will help to reinforce basic addition and subtraction facts which will support our learning of column methods during the year. Times tables facts continue to be a focus. It is important that children know all their times tables by heart and the corresponding division facts up to multiples of 12. For example; 4 times 6 is 24 so 24 divided into groups of 6 is 4. So far this year, the children have greatly improved their recall of the 3, 4 & 8 times tables. We will continue to focus on times tables daily in the class but this is something that with your continued support, regularly practising at home, would be beneficial to your child's success and confidence in many mathematical concepts. Please continue to help your child learn and rapidly recall the 3, 4 & 8 times tables.

In **Geography**, we will be learning about volcanoes, one of the most fascinating phenomena in the world. The class will learn where in the world volcanoes are found before looking at how and why volcanoes erupt. They will explore the positive and negative impact of eruptions on the environment. They will also have the opportunity to explore two volcanic areas in detail, and investigate the flora and fauna that inhabit these areas.

Term 4 will begin our exciting learning about the Ancient Egyptian civilisation in **History**. We will learn about daily life in Ancient Egyptian times and the importance in the River Nile. We will discover how the Ancient Egyptian Gods played an important role in their beliefs and rituals.

In **Science** this term, we will be learning about forces and magnets and comparing and grouping materials based on their magnetic properties. We will explore fair testing and the effect of changing variables to investigate the strength of magnets and how they attract and repel each other. We will continue to explore the effect of variables into Term 4 when we will focus on our topic of animals and humans. During this unit children will learn different food groups and the importance of eating the correct amount and type of foods. They will also learn about the function of the skeleton and muscles in the human body.

In **Design and Technology**, we will be considering a healthy balanced diet to help us to evaluate and compare cold drinks currently sold in the shops. We will then use our knowledge of this to carry out consumer questionnaires to design and make our own healthy fruit drinks.

In **Art** during Term 4 we will develop a range of art skills while exploring and creating Ancient Egyptian art. We will investigate work by a range of artists to inspire our own artwork.

In **Religious Education** this term we will be focussing on Christianity and looking at the meaning, interpretation and significance of God. We will also investigate why festivals are important.

Physical Education will continue to have outdoor PE on **Thursdays** (outdoor) and the 2nd Indoor PE session will be on a **Monday**. Please ensure that your child has suitable kit for when it is cold - tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirt, ideally navy or grey and also a lightweight waterproof for when it rains!

Please ensure that if girls are coming to school in tights, that they have a spare pair of socks as part of their PE kit.

The children will be developing their ball skills and hand eye coordination playing Basketball and later during the Spring term learning and developing the rules for individual player and also team games. The children will develop their understanding of cooperation and team skills while also developing an understanding of the importance of good sportsman ship. During our indoor PE lessons the children will be having a fitness session and improving their health and well-being.

In **Computing** we will become 'presenters'. This unit will give them the opportunity to link their learning across a number of different subjects including Maths, English, Science and Geography as they create, rehearse, record and edit their very own news and weather reports. They will use Windows Live Movie Maker (can be downloaded for free on Windows PCs) to produce and edit the video clips just like a real television or film editor would do. During term 4 we will become researchers and use mind mapping programs to present our findings of Ancient Egypt.

In **Music** we will be learning how to play the recorder. Each child will be given a recorder and book that will be their own for the course of the term. They will be allowed to take these home over the weekends, however please ensure that these are back in school every Monday. During Term 4 we will be learning about the famous composer Tchaikovsky. We will listen and respond to his famous compositions and learn about his life.

In **French** we will carry on with our fun and interactive Tout le Monde programme, following Level 1 module 3, which includes learning about clothing, colours and how to respond to questions.

In **PSHE/SMSC** will be looking at 'Living in the Wider World' and the importance of keeping money safe, saving it and the different ways of earning it.

Homework

Spelling Homework

A wide range of different Spelling Strategies will be practiced throughout this term alongside the usual spelling contract. Hopefully, this will help them learn their spellings in different and fun ways, which will allow them to discover the best way to learn them in future years!

I understand that some children have a busy schedule with afterschool clubs and activities but please continue to support and encourage your child to complete their homework and read their school or home book at least 5 times a week. Many children are proud recipients of Red and Orange Reading Reward certificates so far! Keep up the hard work and dedication!

As always, I would like to reiterate that your continued encouragement and support is vital to your child's success. School and home should be a partnership working together to support your child in their learning and to maximise their success, therefore should you or your child have any worries or problems please do not hesitate to contact me. I am confident that we will have a fantastic Spring term and I look forward to continuing to help your child achieve their goals.

Kind regards,

Phil Burns

