

Curriculum Newsletter for Year 3



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have a very exciting time ahead of us. In order to keep you informed and help you support your children, we thought it would be useful to share with you some of the arrangements for the Spring Term.

Class	Year 3 – Meerkats and Lemurs	
Class Teacher	Mr Burton and Mrs O'Donnell	
Other teachers teaching the class	Mrs Witt (Thursday am - Lemur) Mrs Lacey (Monday and Thursday am – Meerkat)	
Support staff working in the classroom	Mrs Turner – Lemur Mrs Singh - Lemur Mrs Matthews - Meerkats	
Home learning	All home learning will be sent home on a Thursday. The home learning sheet should be stuck in to their home learning books and will detail each task. Mathematics tasks are set to help children practise and reinforce maths skills taught in school that week. It would also greatly benefit your child in their maths learning if they regularly practised their 3, 4 and 8 times tables. There are some great songs and games which can be found online to help with this learning.	
Reading books	Children can change their reading books every day if they wish, as long as they have read the book at home. Please try and hear your child read for at least 10 minutes each day. Please remember to sign the reading record when you have read with your child, indicating the page number reached. Again, any brief comments about how your child read or about any questions / conversations you had about the book are very useful for continual assessment.	
PE kits	Our PE days are Tuesdays and alternate Mondays and Fridays. Please ensure named PE kit is in school on these days. All jewellery should be removed and children with long hair should have it tied back for health and safety reasons.	
Planned trips this term:	Visits from a mountaineering expert are being planned along with a 'Wow' event for Spring 2.	
Theme work	Spring 1	Spring 2
	<i>Monstrous Mountains</i>	<i>Bottoms, bellies and burps</i>

We have outlined below an overview of our learning this term which will help you to support your child at home. If you have any questions about these topics, please come and talk to us.

Literacy

In Literacy this half term, we will use our knowledge of traditional tales to create alternative versions of fairy tales. After the half term break, we will be focusing on non-fiction writing related to our theme of mountains. The children will learn how to write an explanation about being a mountain climber and will recap the features of report writing when we learn about different mountains. In addition, we will learn haiku, tanka and kenning poems which we will read, create and perform to the class.

Maths

In Maths, we will be focussing on measuring mass (kg/g) and understanding fractions of amounts as well as comparing fractions. We will work further on telling the time with greater accuracy and using roman numerals. We will continue to build on our skills of the four calculations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and will use our knowledge to solve problems in a real life context.

RE

Within our collective worships, our focus will be on the Christian value of thankfulness. In R.E, we will be finding out about 'Sikhism- what do Sikhs believe'. In Spring 2, we will move on to focus on 'Do fame and the Christian Faith go together'.

PE

In our PE sessions, we will continue to focus on skills that can be applied to different physical games. We will learn a range of new games that require children to think more deeply about how they work as a team and how they communicate with others. One of our main focus will be on co-ordination. We will also be incorporating some sequence lessons using a range of apparatus.

ICT/ Computing

We will build on our research skills during theme lessons by using the internet in a helpful and safe way. Additionally, we will use digital cameras and Learnpads to take photographs and film each other, especially in performance-based lessons. We will work more on coding skills as we go through the term.

Theme

Our theme this half term is 'Monstrous Mountains'. The children will learn about what mountains are, how they are formed and how they are used by people the world over. We will really focus on map work by identifying where mountain ranges are in the world and locating them on a blank map. Through our science lessons, we will focus on fair testing by looking at materials needed to keep an explorer warm and dry when climbing. We will develop our skills of observation and sketching by looking at images of mountains and experimenting with media to create our own images

Next half term we will be exploring digestion and the marvels of the human body. We will look at nutrition, what it takes to stay healthy and find out where our food comes from and goes to!

This term, we will be learning how to read simple music and play the glockenspiel. We will continue to develop our skills in rhythm, tempo and dynamics through this exciting new instrument!

We are looking forward to this term and the exciting things yet to learn!

Thank you for your continuing support.

Mr Burton and Mrs O'Donnell

