

Year 3 newsletter - Summer 2011

Welcome back!

We hope you have had an enjoyable Easter holiday. We have an action-packed term ahead, both with curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Our Science topic for the first half term is *Helping Plants Grow*. We will be spending a lot of time at the allotment nurturing the Year 3 bed! Gardening club for Year 3 will be on a Wednesday lunchtime. Classes will alternate on a weekly basis. After half term, we shall be learning about *Light and Shadows*. We will study shadows on the playground and how they change over the course of the day as well as making shadow puppets.

In Mathematics, we will develop efficient written methods in addition and subtraction. The children will start to multiply two-digit numbers by a single-digit number and will consider when to round up or down when there is a remainder after division. We will link work in measure to Science and Geography. The children will build upon their understanding of shape and space and fractions. We continue to focus on developing recall of multiplication and division facts as the whole school mathematics target.

In Literacy we will cover play scripts, factual reports, story writing and poetry. Underlying this will be a focus on punctuation, exciting sentence starts, good adjectives and using paragraphs.

Our phonics sessions will cover the spelling of key words and recognising and applying spelling patterns.

Reading continues to be an important skill, so the more your child reads within the home, both independently and in a shared context, the better.

Our Geography topic for this term is The Weather . We will be recording temperature, rainfall and wind direction on a daily basis. We will also compare the climate in England to other places around the world.

Further to this we will be studying 'Sacred Writings' and 'The Bible as a Book' within R.E., 'Growing and Changing' in P.S.H.C.E. and making food in D.T. ICT will be taught through the rest of the curriculum.

As a reminder, homework is intended to take thirty minutes a week. It is ideal if your child can share their homework with you before it is returned to school. Children are to use only pencil to record their work, and to take care with presentation. Homework books are expected to be returned each Tuesday before the next work is set on Thursday.

The children will continue the skills they learnt on the recorder from Year 2. Whilst we do have some recorders that can be loaned for use in school, it would be ideal if your child has his/her own recorder and that it is clearly named. Sessions will be on Tuesdays.

We hope you and your children have an enjoyable Summer term. Please feel free to come and talk to us if you have any concerns or comments as the term progresses.

Mrs O'Shea & Miss Mordue

All of the curriculum skills will be taught in our new and exciting topic... You'll have to wait until next week to find out more!

