



## Year 3 Spring Term Newsletter 2023

Happy New Year! Thank you so much for your generosity at Christmas. Mrs Young and myself were touched by your thoughtful gifts. This half term our value is 'Wisdom'. During Collective Worship and class activities, we shall be exploring what wisdom is and how we can show it in our day-to-day lives. We will also be considering who is a good role model and how we can be inspired by them. After half term our value will be 'Hope'.

### English

Our English work will continue to focus around quality texts using The Literacy Tree scheme. This half term, the children *will be focusing on the text 'The Pied Piper of Hamelin'*. We will be using the version of this story written by Michael Morpurgo and Emma Chichester Clark. The learning will include a range of drama and practical activities to develop speaking and listening skills and to help the children really engage with and understand the text before writing about it. This term in English we will be focusing particularly on the use of accurate grammar and punctuation. We will also be thinking about choosing exciting vocabulary to make our writing more impactful and learning to extend our sentences using a range of clauses and punctuation. Additionally, we will be learning more about the themes of books we study and developing our ability to infer meaning and to compare books that we have read that will support their reading and inference skills.

### RE

During RE this half term, the children will have the opportunity to learn more about some of the characters from the Old Testament and explore how they were guided by God and why they are important to the Bible. We will also look at how they themselves influenced the people of God due to his teachings. After half term, we will be studying the Easter Story in detail and looking particularly at the individuals involved in the events leading up to the Crucifixion.

### Maths

We are beginning the Spring term by continuing to look at multiplication and division. This term we will be focusing on introducing new formal methods for multiplication and division. We will be using formal methods for both. This is vitally important to help the children develop a secure understanding of Mathematics.

Another key skill which the children are developing is to apply their mathematical knowledge to solve problems in a range of practical contexts. We dedicate time each week for them to practise applying the skills they have learnt to solve one and two step problems. We will also be looking again at consolidating Mental Maths facts, such as simple addition and subtraction and times tables.

The children will also develop their understanding of shape, money and measure. It is really important that as the children move through Year 3 they are able to tell the time confidently to the nearest 5 minutes. Many children find this tricky, so you may like to help by practising at home in addition to the weekly Maths homework.

### Times Tables

As always, times tables are a key skill and *will be vital to the children's speed, fluency and deeper level of understanding regarding their work.* Please continue to encourage the children to practise their times tables using Times Tables Rock Stars.

### Science, Computing and DT

Our science focus this half term will be on plants. We will be going on a nature walk, making a detailed drawing of a flower and labels using the key scientific language. The children will be investigating the importance of the different parts of a plant (leaves, stem, roots and flowers).

There will also be an optional where the children can grow a plant of their choice. They will then need observe carefully to be very scientific and keep a log with up to date information on their plant. This may include the height, number of leaves and any other observations they make as the plant grows. As part of their computer learning the children will be using the Photostory program to record the progress of their plants growth.

Next half term in Science we will be covering light.

### History

During History this half term, we will be learning about the Bronze age. The children will be looking at how culture has change from the Stone Age . They will be particularly focusing on building development, art, culture and farming.

### Homework

Homework will be sent home on Friday and should be handed back in by the following Wednesday. Spellings will be sent home on Friday and tested the following Thursday/ Friday. Please ensure your child practises their spellings at home. We will continue to send Maths homework, usually through the “**Mathletics and PurpleMash**” websites. If you have any problems please let me know. Please also continue to also use the Times Table Rockstars program to practise multiplication and division. In addition to this, the children should be reading aloud to an adult regularly at home and logging this in their reading log.

### PPA

My weekly non-contact time will be on a Friday. The children will be taught by Mrs Boyle and will continue to have alternate morning or afternoon sessions with her.

### Geography

This half term, we will be focusing on the Earth from the International Space Station. This is a fun chance to see our world from a different perspective and learn more about the work of the astronauts on the International Space Station.

The children will be looking at pictures of the Earth from Space, identifying continents, countries and other landmarks that can be spotted from Space. Part of our learning will also be investigating how the astronauts live on the International Space Station. There will be videos for the children to watch and a chance for them to create their own fact files.

### Expressive Art

Our art focus this half term is sketching and modelling. For this the children will be asked to follow tutorials to sketch an object, paying careful attention to the proportions of the object. The children will **learn techniques used by this term's focus** artist, Leonardo Da Vinci. They will then have a chance to show off new skills based on a object of their choosing.

During our modelling-focused learning, we will be exploring clay techniques in greater detail using water and a range of tools to add patterns and effects. We will also begin to learn say simple greeting in French and continue our music studies.

### Wellbeing

Our physical and mental wellbeing has never been more important and as a class this term we will continue to look after and learning about the birds that visit our schools grounds. During our wellbeing lessons we will also be talking about how to deal with loss and separation, how to keep ourselves safe including online safety, and what it means to be a good friend. This term in P.E our sports foci will be Dodgeball, Quicksticks, Netball and Basketball. Our P.E Lessons will take place on a Monday. Please ensure your child has the correct P.E kit: navy blue shorts/ tracksuit bottoms and navy blue/yellow T-shirts.

Dates:

**PTFA Evening Event**—27th January 2023

**PTFA Pre loved Uniform Sale**—Friday 13th January

**PTFA School Disco**—Thursday 9th February

**End of half term**—Friday 10th February

**Half Term**—Monday 13th February—Friday 17th February

**Return to school**— Monday 20th February

**Year 3 Class collective worship**—Wednesday 1st March 2023

**St Patrick's Day**—Friday 17th March

**Parents and Careers Evenings**— 27th to 29th March.

**Break up for Easter Holidays**—Friday 31st March

**Return to School for Summer Term**—Monday 17th April.

And finally...

If you have any quick questions or concerns please feel free to catch me in the playground at the end of the day. If you would like to speak me more privately, please let me know or contact the school office to arrange an appointment. Please do keep an eye on the school website which lists all the key dates for the Spring term and do remember to read the Head Teacher newsletter for up to date reminders.

Mr Bowen - Year 3 Class Teacher

