



Year 3 Spring Term Newsletter 2024

Happy New Year and welcome back! Thank you so much for your generosity at Christmas, I was so appreciative of my lovely gifts—thank you. 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 "Leon and The Place Between" by Angela McAllister. 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 'Light'. This unit will focus on **Comparative and Fair testing**. During this time, the children will learn to:

- recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light
- notice that light is reflected from surfaces
- recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect their eyes

In Spring 2, we will learn about plants.

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

As you know, there have been some changes to homework this year. The homework letter will be handed out on a Friday, and all spelling and times tables activities will be online and should be completed by Wednesday. 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 ordinarily be on Friday morning but **until Miss Lindsay's return, it will be covered by Mrs Benjamin on Wednesday afternoon**. The children continue to be taught by Mrs Boyle on Thursday and Friday afternoon as part of my SENCO time.

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 greetings in French and continue our music studies.

Wellbeing

As a class this term we will continue to look after and learning about the birds that visit our schools grounds. **Please bring wellies if we do not already have a pair in school**. 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 Thursday. Please ensure your child has the correct P.E kit: navy blue shorts/tracksuit bottoms and navy blue/yellow T-shirts.

The children will be going swimming in the second half of the Spring Term.

Dates:

Year 3 collective worship—Wednesday 31st
January 9:05am.

PTFA Bags2School Collection—Wednesday 21st
February

PTFA KS2 School Disco—Friday 23rd Febru-
ary 5:15pm —6:15pm

St. David's Day - yellow shirt Friday 1st
March

St. Patrick's Day - green shirt Monday 18th
March (Sunday 17th March)

SSA Parent and Carer Evenings— w/c Mon-
day 25th March to Wednesday 27th March -
3.30pm - 6.00pm

Year 3 and 4 visit to Gatton Park—Tuesday
26th March 2024

Easter Service Christ Church—Thursday 28th
March - 9.30am

PTFA Easter Egg Hunt—Thursday 28th March
- 3.15pm-4.00pm

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.

Mrs Cordey - Year 3 Class Teacher

