

Year 3 Spring Term Newsletter

Class Teacher: Miss Pathak



Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely Christmas and new year.

In **English**, we will be reading Matilda by Roald Dahl as our class text. Through this story, we will be looking at diary writing and instructional texts. We will also be working on becoming adept at editing our work and talking about what we need to do to improve our English. Some objectives that we will be working on include: using inverted commas for direct speech, using fronted adverbials and using a range of conjunctions at the start and in the middle of sentences.

During our **Geography** lessons, we will be learning all about rivers. Our first lessons begin with an examination of the journey of a river. Subsequent lessons will have a focus on investigating rivers around the world, their key features and in what ways humans are connected to them e.g. transport.

In **History** we will be learning about Anglo-Saxon, Scots & Vikings. We will learn about the lives of people who lived in this period, how they lived, their homes, their jobs, what they ate and what they did for fun. We will discuss how we know about the lives of people who lived so long ago and learn about primary and secondary sources such as artefacts found at Sutton Hoo, places such as West Stow and the AngloSaxon Chronicle. We will also look at the religious beliefs of both the Anglo Saxons and the Vikings. Finally, we will learn about the Vikings and the significance of Viking Long ships that enabled them to travel, trade, raid and invade.

In **Art**, we will be studying the Art of Anglo-Saxons by focusing on objects found at the burial ground at Sutton Hoo. From this we will design our own metalwork using symmetry and interlocking patterns. After this, we will examine the Bayeux tapestry and design our very own illuminated letters with a focus on accurate and detailed paintbrush work.

During our **Computing** lessons in Spring 1 we will explore the concept of sequencing in programming through Scratch. It begins with an introduction to the programming environment, which will be new to most learners. They will be introduced to a selection of motion, sound, and event blocks which they will use to create their own programs, featuring sequences. The final project is to make a representation of a piano. The unit is paced to focus on all aspects of sequences, and make sure that knowledge is built in a structured manner. The children also apply stages of program design through this unit. In Spring 2 we will be focusing on developing the children's understanding

PE for this term will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Can we ask that no jewellery be worn on these days please.

Upcoming Events

Mon 6th January- INSET Day – School Closed

Tues 6th January - Term 3 starts

Internet Safety Day

NSPCC Numbers Day

Y3 Class Assembly 14th Feb

17th – Fri 21st -Feb Half Term – School Closed

Mon 24th Feb- INSET Day – School Closed

Tues 25th Feb - Term 4 starts

Mon 6th March – World Book Day

Fri 14th March – Datchet's Got Talent

Fri 28th March – Women's Day

Fri 4th April - 1.45 end of term.

Mon 7th Mar – Mon 21st April - School Closed

of what a branching database is and how to create one. They will gain an understanding of what attributes are and how to use them to sort groups of objects by using yes/no questions. The children will create physical and on-screen branching databases. Finally, they will evaluate the effectiveness of branching databases and will decide what types of data should be presented as a branching database.

In **French** we will be consolidating all that we have learnt so far before starting the new topic, 'Our School'. Through singing, games and conversational roleplay, Year 3 will be learning lots of new vocabulary for things in the classroom, school subjects and items in their pencil cases. Ooh la la!

During **Science** in Spring , we will be focusing on light and shadow. We will be discovering what dark is, looking into the difference of night and day, thinking about the importance of the sun, to be reminded about sun safety, to investigate how shadows behave, what happens to shadows at different times of day and explore how light reflects. In Summer 2, we will be focusing on plants and what are their needs and requirements, looking at different parts of the plant and what they do, investigating how water is transported through plants, and the life cycle of a flower. To achieve this, we will be carrying out exciting experiments such as food colouring and celery sticks.

In **RE**, we will be starting our final unit on Sikhism: 'Who is Guru Nanak?' Through stories and class discussions, we will be looking into who Guru Nanak was and why he is so important to Sikh people.

In **Maths**, we will cover money; addition and subtraction of money both mentally, practically with coins and by using the written column method. We will be revisiting time, fractions and shape work, particularly revising properties of shapes and calculating their areas and perimeters.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask or contact us using the class email

year3@datchetstmarysacademy.co.uk

Activities to do at home:

Please read with your child regularly and record this in their reading records. Ask them questions to check their understanding and encourage them to re-read the book to improve fluency and accuracy. Your child will be sent home with a new book on a **Monday** and **Thursday**.

Homework will consist of a maths workbook and an English activity and will be given on a **Friday** and is due in the following **Wednesday**.

Spellings will be set on a **Friday** for a test the following **Friday**. Please also encourage your child to log onto **spelling frame** regularly.

Please also encourage your child to use **doodlemaths** and practice their times tables – they will be tested on these every other Friday as well as completing arithmetic tests.