

Year 3 Autumn Term Newsletter

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday – Miss Smith
Thursday and Friday – Miss Koza

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely summer break and are feeling rested and ready to go. Our exciting topics for this term are as follows:

In **English** we will begin by looking at narrative writing. The children will learn the structure of a story through the 'story mountain' and then plan their own, strong character descriptions through the use of descriptive language. We will also explore and use the appropriate literary devices for narratives within our own writing and begin to develop our editing skills by reviewing what we have written.



During our **Geography** lessons we will begin by revisiting the points on a compass and symbols used on maps. After this, we will develop our map reading skills by analysing Ordnance Surveys of Datchet and its surrounding areas. We will also be comparing the physical and human features of Datchet and the far-off San Francisco!

In **Art** we will be observing and forming our own opinions on the work of still life artists. From this, we will explore the different ways that artists can show the form of an object. We will also try our hand at drawing our own still life objects using techniques such as cross-hatching and then think of ways to include colour in our pieces.

During our **Computing** lessons we will begin by looking at computing systems and networks where we will challenge children to develop their understanding of digital devices, with an initial focus on inputs, processes, and outputs. We will then move on to desktop publishing where they will use desktop publishing software and consider careful choices of font size, colour and type.

Our **Monday PE** lessons will focus on fundamental movement and control skills needed to play invasion games. We will also work on our evasion skills when trying to escape a defender on the opposing team. **Friday PE** lessons will be devoted to developing our gymnastics skills this term.



PE for this term will be on **Mondays** and **Fridays**, so please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit on these days.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 3rd October – Harvest Festival

Friday 6th October – Year 3 Class Assembly

Monday 16th October – Black History Day

Week beginning 16th October – Parent Meetings

Friday 20th October – Year 3 school trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum

Monday 23rd Oct – Friday 27th October - Half Term

Monday 30th October - Inset day

Friday 17th November - Datchet's Got Talent

Friday 8th December - Christmas Fair

Wednesday 13th December - KS2 Christmas Church Carol Service year 4 & 5 lead 9.30

Thursday 14th December – EYFS show and Christmas lunch

Friday 15th December – Last Day of term. 1.30pm finish

In **Science** we will be looking at the human body including muscles, skeletons and the nervous system. They will understand that our bodies are made up of systems that work alongside each other to keep us alive, moving, and healthy. We will then move on to learning about cycles in nature including observing changes in the seasons and life cycles of plants and animals.

In **History** our first topic is Stone Age to Iron Age where we will look at the 3 different periods of the stone age, how farming began, the prehistoric monument Stonehenge as well as the Bronze and Iron Ages. We will then move on to the topic of Ancient Egypt which ties in nicely from our previous topic as these units cover some of the same time period which should allow children to make comparisons between what was happening in Egypt and Britain at the same point in time. The children will begin by locating Egypt and looking at the importance of the River Nile. They will also learn about pyramids, Tutankhamun and hieroglyphics.

In **RE**, Year 3 will be learning about Sikhism and understand what it means to belong to a community or group. They will begin by looking at the main beliefs of Sikhism and through discussion will explore how this compares to other commitments we have as individuals. We will be learning about the main beliefs within Sikhism, the holy book and place of worship for Sikhs. Throughout the unit, children will listen to traditional Sikh stories that include messages based on the fundamentals of Sikhism.

In **Maths**, we will be focusing on reading and writing numbers to 1000 and recognizing the place value of each digit into hundreds, tens and ones. We will be learning mental addition and subtraction of 2-digit numbers using different strategies. Children will learn to identify 3 D shapes with particular attributes. This term emphasis will be on 2, 5 and 10 times tables. They will learn to understand the concept of multiplication, division and fractions and apply this knowledge to word problems

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

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 2 new books 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 an arithmetic tests.