

## Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter Autumn 2017

Welcome to the Junior School! We hope you all had a very enjoyable summer break and are ready for a new school year. We are looking forward to starting our journey through the Year 3 curriculum.

### English

In English, we are studying the book 'Flat Stanley' to develop the children's reading comprehension skills such as inference, prediction and understanding characters' feelings. We will be writing a story based on Flat Stanley's adventure in Egypt and we will also be writing diaries linked our topic work about Howard Carter.

Next half term we will be writing explanation texts and free verse poetry, linked to our Learning Journey.

#### Reading

As you are aware, children need lots of practice to become confident readers. Reading aloud is a good way to hear expression and self-correct when it does not sound right. Please ensure your child is reading every night- around 15 minutes is a good amount. When they have finished, quiz them on new words, tricky spellings, actions, punctuation, thoughts and feelings. Then please write the book title, page number and a comment in the planner and sign, so that we know they have been read with.

#### Spelling

Children will do spelling activities each morning in class to reinforce work in English lessons. Spelling lists will be sent home half termly. They will be tested weekly. Please support your child to learn their spellings. Say, Look, Cover, Write, Check is a good method to use.

### Mathematics

In Maths, we're focusing on number and place value. We will be working on numbers up to a thousand. We'll be using concrete resources such as dienes and place value counters, leading on to pictorial representations to give children a really good understanding of number. We will work on mental and written strategies for addition and subtraction, 2d shape and angles. The children will have many opportunities to apply their knowledge to solve problems. The daily mental maths session will focus on practising number facts, counting and time.

Please support your child to be involved with as much maths as possible at home. E.g. cooking, weighing, measuring, patterns, money, time. If you would like any ideas please speak to us for suggestions.

The times tables we learn in year 3 are the 3 x, 4 x, 8 x. Please practise these if your child is confident with the 2 x, 5 x, 10 x (learnt in year 2).

### Learning Journey

This half term we will be learning Ancient Egypt. We will learn about the importance of the pyramids, pharaohs and mummification and about gods and hieroglyphics. On our Wow day, 17<sup>th</sup> October, the children will have the opportunity to take part in practical and creative activities.

After half term we will be learning about Our Bodies, focusing on skeleton and muscles. We will learn about different types of animal skeletons and compare them to the human skeleton.

## P.E.

Year 3 will have PE twice a week. One lesson will be a games based lesson, usually outside and the other will be indoor dance or gymnastics. This half term our topics are 'Boot Camp' and Egyptian/African dance.

**Aspen:** Wednesday and Thursday

**Cedar:** Thursday and Friday

**Elder:** Wednesday and Thursday.

## Key Information

### General organisation

Pupils need to have the following in school every day:

- a named water bottle
- reading book and planner
- PE kit bag containing named trainers, named white t shirt and a pair of named shorts.

- We provide equipment for lessons, so there is no need for pupils to bring in pencil cases.
- Pupils are welcome to bring in a piece of fresh fruit or vegetables to have for their morning break. Snacks **must not contain nuts or chocolate**.
- Please remember that it is school uniform policy for pupils to come to school in plain black shoes and without jewellery.
- We would also like to remind you that long hair should be tied back every day, using small uniform-coloured accessories. Large bows are not permitted.

### Key Dates for this term

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October: Parents evening 5:00 – 7:30pm

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October: Egyptian Wow Day

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October: Parents evening 4:00 - 6:30pm

## Home Learning

Home learning is set on a weekly basis. It will be issued every Thursday and expected to be completed and handed to the class teacher the following Tuesday.

Home learning is designed to reinforce work studied in class. The type of homework can vary from week to week, some has to be recorded in the homework books and some will be more creative. Please speak to the teachers if you are ever unsure about how to help your child with their homework. Children should speak to their own teachers if they have any queries with their homework.

Here are two websites that children might find helpful to support their learning at home:

Maths Games

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/problem-solving>

English Grammar

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/spelling\\_grammar/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/spelling_grammar/)

**Please feel free to speak to us about any issues concerning your child, either through their planners or arranging an after school meeting via the office.**

**Year 3 Team**

**Mrs Booth (Year Group Leader), Mrs Burbidge, Mrs Greathead and Miss Scott**