



Year 3 Summer Term Newsletter

Welcome to term three. I hope you had a fantastic Easter holiday and the children are ready for another action-packed term.

This half term, our value is GRACE. After half term our value will be JOY.

English

English lessons will centre around using high quality texts which enable children to learn about and use literary devices. We will also focus on using grammar and punctuation. There will be opportunities for children to explore key concepts through drama.

We expect all children to read regularly at home and ask that yellow reading diaries 'live' in book bags so they can be accessed at school and at home. Please do ensure these are signed regularly by you.

Homework

As a reminder, homework will be handed out every Friday and must be handed back in by the following Wednesday. It is important it comes in by Wednesday so we have a chance to reward children for their hard work, identify weaknesses and stick in homework. If your child is unable to complete the homework one week for any reason, please let me know.

PPA

On Friday I have my weekly non-contact time. During the afternoon, the children will have an Art, PSHE, French or Computing session led by our Higher Level Teaching Assistant - Mrs Lane.

Science

During the first half term our topic will be **Plants**. This will include exploring the functions of different parts of a plant. Our second topic for next half term will be **Light**.

Maths

We will begin our work in Maths this term by consolidating the children's knowledge of place value, using this to add and subtract numbers. The children will consolidate the use of the formal methods learnt last term. Rather than extending the children arithmetically, the new curriculum requires them to deepen their understanding of mathematical skills, so we will focus on applying their knowledge through word problems and asking them to explain their methods and their reasons for using them.

Throughout this term the children will continue to practise their times tables. Please practise a few times tables each week with your child.

Year 3 Gardening Reflection area

This term, we will really make use of our garden reflection area as the weather has brightened. The children have already planted a small bush in our garden. We will shortly be having a competition for the best garden design using the herbs I have personally purchased for the garden. Thank you so much Mrs Grace for the kind donation of a trowel and fork which has enabled us to plant the bush. We would really love for you to donate any herbs, vegetables, flowers or grasses, gardening secateurs or gloves which you may have spare, would like to purchase for our class. If you would prefer to send in £1 or £2 (or more) so that I can put the money together and purchase some plants, please feel free to do so. Please don't feel obliged, but it would be lovely to have equipment so as many children can be involved per visit to the garden area and more plants would liven our garden area.

Expressive Arts

We will begin this term with a focus on developing the children's sculpture and textiles skills. This will include revising children's clay techniques and latterly sew sequins or buttons on material. Music this term will focus on learning to play the recorder. In French, we will be learning to name animals.

Philosophy and PSHE

We encourage our children to listen and respond with thoughtfulness and respect. We will continue to teach 'Philosophy for Children' to encourage children to foster critical and deeper thinking. This term will focus on internet safety and leading a healthy lifestyle.

P.E.

Continuing on from last term, on Tuesday afternoons the children will have P.E with Mr Smith and myself. Please ensure your child has the correct P.E kit on this day: navy blue shorts/tracksuit bottoms, navy blue/yellow T-shirts and trainers or football boots (no plimssoles). If girls wear tights into school, please make sure there is a spare pair of socks in their P.E. bag. Please make sure all items of your child's P.E kit are named. If girls wear earrings, adults cannot take these out for safety reasons, so please make sure they can take them out in school themselves, or make sure they avoid wearing earrings that day. Also, girls' hair should be tied up. P.E. kits should be brought to school on Monday and will be sent home on Friday for washing. On Friday mornings, children continue to have swimming lessons. For this, children need a towel, swimming costume and swimming cap of any colour. Goggles are optional. If you would like to provide your child with a snack, they are often pleased to have this after swimming. P.E is a very important part of the curriculum and it is vital that the children bring in full kit. If your child is unable to attend a P.E lesson due to injury or illness, please write a note to let us know.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Our main topic focus will be Geography. The topic is 'North and South America'. We will be learning different geographical vocabulary, including the topographical and climatic zones of North and South America and the physical characteristics of these areas, for example, volcanoes, earthquakes and rivers.

R.E.

This will continue to be taught across the school on Wednesday afternoons. This half-term the children will be learning about Christianity. This will focus on how the Christian message has survived over 2,000 years. After half term, we will be studying Sikhism, focusing on what Sikhs believe.

Stationery equipment

Please make sure that your child has at least one lead pencil, one red pencil (for feedback to marking), a 30cm ruler, rubber (preferably no electronic rubbers), sharpener and whiteboard pen (we will provide the whiteboards). Optional stationery may include scissors and it would be so helpful if you could provide your child with a named, plain white glue stick.

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 with me more privately, please see me 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 Summer term.

Here's to another fantastic term with your wonderful children!

Miss Cook
Year 3 Class Teacher

