


# Year 3 Autumn 1 Newsletter 2018

Welcome to Year 3! The children have settled well to their learning and we are looking forward to an exciting year ahead. As always look out for the  symbol for easy ideas to support your child's learning.

## Our topics this term are 'Stone Age' and 'Rock and Soils'

### English



This half term we will be looking at story settings, plots and characters. The children will identify descriptive language used by authors and will use the techniques learned in their own writing. They will also read fables and write their own modern day fables. We will also use our Stone Age topic to write stories. We have reintroduced a daily story as listening to story and rhyme really helps with a child's own reading.



Enjoy reading a story to your child at bedtime!

### Maths



This half term the children will be learning about place value and they will be reading and writing numbers up to 1000. As we are following a mastery approach, the children will be encouraged to use concrete apparatus and pictorial representations to support their learning meaning they will group objects into hundreds / tens / ones so they have a really secure knowledge of place value.



Count on and BACK with your child in ones and tens e.g. 67,68,69,70,71,70,69,68,67 or 23, 33, 43, 53, 63, 53, 43, 33, 23

### Science



Our science topic for this half term is 'Rocks and Soils.' We will be comparing and grouping rocks on the basis of their appearance and their properties. The children will also learn how fossils are formed and what soils are made from.



See if there are any unusual rocks in your garden - different colours, textures, hard or able to crumble.

### History



Our topic this half term is 'The Stone Age' and we will learn about the changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. We will also consider the purpose of Stonehenge and how humans evolved from hunter-gatherers.



Talk to your child about events in their life, your lifetime and try to help them understand just how far in the distant past the Stone Age was-they sometimes think we were actually there!

### R.E



The children will be learning about what the religions teach us about the natural world. As always, we will be discussing different religions and encouraging children to talk about their own beliefs in order to help them develop an understanding and tolerance of others.



If your child visits a place of worship or takes part in an event, get them to bring in photos and tell us about it.

### Computing



The children will continue to learn to program simple games and actions using coding and have to trouble shoot their own programming. We will be talking a lot about games they play at home, the reasons for age restrictions and what to do if they ever come across something online that makes them feel uncomfortable.



Encourage your child to talk to you about the games they play and what to do if they are unsure or feel uncomfortable.

## Art



Our art will be linked to our Stone Age topic, where the children will use a range of materials to produce images based on cave art.



Help your child look up images of cave paintings from different parts of the world

## Music



Year 3 children get to work with Inspiring Music over the year to learn an instrument and to join other schools in an amazing singing event at the end of the year. This term we have a Samba drumming teacher first thing each Monday morning - a great start to the week that really wakes us up!



Try tapping out a simple repetitive rhythm for your child to follow or you follow theirs!



## Homework

The children will be given their Autumn 1 homework menu this week, so please have fun supporting your child completing these. We would like the children to complete two of these tasks by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

**Reading** - Listen to your child read as often as you can. Discuss the story, characters and meaning of new words. Try to ask them questions about what they have read to check their understanding. The middle section of the new reading diaries should help with this as well as other areas of English your child is working on.

**Spellings** - We are starting a scheme of teaching spelling called 'No Nonsense Spelling.' This will give the children spellings to learn fortnightly - more details to follow soon. Again, the centre of the Reading Diary has other spellings your child will be working on.

**Times tables** - There is a national push for children to know their Times Tables - not just in order to recite but also out of order (instant recall of what, for example,  $2 \times 8 =$ ) and also associated division facts ( $2 \times 8 = 16$  and so  $16$  divided by  $8 = 2$  and divided by  $2 = 8$ , again instant recall). In Year 2 they covered 2, 5, 10 times tables but need to revise these this term. 'Hit the Button' can be Googled and is a good game to play as well as any songs you may find to help remember them.

*Thank you for your continued support.*

*If you ever have any concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to us.*

**The Year 3 Team**

**Maple Class: Miss Khindev (Teacher) & Mrs James (TA)**

**Sycamore Class: Teachers -Mrs Ashcroft (Mon-Tues), Mrs Gower (Weds, Thurs, Fri), Mrs Martin (TA)**

## P.E.

We have specialist teaching for dance and are learning a Samba inspired dance (which is exhausting!). With the sports coach, the children will be learning team building skills through Outdoor Adventure Activities.

Please make sure your child has a PE kit in school every day and removes or is able to remove earrings on a Tuesday and Thursday.

## Values/PSHE

We are working as a school to develop a new school 'creed' to gather our school Values along with our Golden Rules of showing 'Readiness, Respect & Responsibility.'

Please help your child work on 'Responsibility & Readiness' by encouraging them to maintain their attendance & punctuality (8.50am in their line on the playground) and reminding them to check they have book bag, water bottle, PE kit and correct uniform each day.



