



# Class 3 Newsletter Autumn 2023

Dear children, parents and families of Class 3,

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Welcome back to school for the new academic year. I hope you have all had the chance for some fun in the sun - however fleeting it may have been! I'm looking forward to an autumn term filled with a wide range of exciting activities and learning opportunities for the children. Here is an outline of what we will be doing in each subject area.

## LITERACY

**Narratives (Historical / adventure fiction):** There are many versions of Robin Hood out there, but Michael Morpurgo's 'Outlaw' is an especially moving and exciting one, with plenty of literary ideas for us to learn from. As we read the story in class, we will develop new skills for strong description and suspenseful story-telling in an historical fiction genre.

**Speeches:** In this unit will read, watch and listen to a number of speeches, learning the techniques of language, structure and delivery that makes them effective. Our class novel raises many emotive issues which, alongside our history and geography topics, will provide rich inspiration for our own speech writing.

**Poetry:** Our poetry unit will look at a range of poems all based around the themes of 'darkness and light'. We will look at how personification is used to express ideas and learn how to write our own poems which move, inspire and challenge the reader.

**Reading, Spelling, Handwriting and Grammar:** Guided reading, spelling, grammar and handwriting activities will continue throughout the week.

## MATHS

**Number & Place Value:** Interpreting negative numbers in context; reading Roman numerals to 1000 (M); multiplying and dividing whole numbers and those involving decimals by 10, 100 and 1,000; rounding numbers (including decimal numbers).

**Addition & Subtraction:** Solving addition and subtraction multi-step problems in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why including understanding of the 'equals' sign; estimating, using inverse operations and rounding to check answers to a calculation.

**Multiplication & Division:** Written methods for multiplication and division; recognising and using square numbers and cube numbers; using the vocabulary of prime numbers, prime factors and composite (nonprime) numbers; solving problems involving multiplication and division.

**Fractions:** Finding equivalent fractions; converting fractions and mixed numbers; adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers; multiplying and dividing fractions (Year 6 only); solving problems involving fractions; finding fractions of amounts.

**Forces:** In this unit we will explore forces through a series of investigations. We will learn to identify different types of forces, how to formally measure them and how they are used in practical ways. We will learn how scientists first recognised forces and their effects and follow in the footsteps of their discoveries. The children will develop new skills in scientific enquiry and design their own investigations to answer questions.

**Light:** This unit is all about the phenomenon of light: what it is, how it travels and why it is fundamental to how we experience the world through sight. There will be many investigations to help us uncover how light behaves, and the children will learn to use new scientific instruments and to record results accurately.

**HISTORY (The Anglo-Saxons):** Our history unit this term explores Anglo-Saxon Britain, from the first invasions to the death of the last Saxon king. Using books, online resources and archaeological discoveries, we will learn about significant Anglo-Saxon kings, what Anglo-Saxons society was like and how the Anglo-Saxons have influenced life in Britain today.

**GEOGRAPHY (Limestone Country):** This unit gives us the chance to learn about karst landscapes which characterise the Yorkshire Dales. We will explore what is special about these landscapes and about the extraordinary landforms, such as potholes, caves and limestone pavement, that can be found here. We will also learn how people and unique wildlife depend on the limestone and how different land uses coexist. Early in the term, the Year 6 children will travel to Ingleborough to experience Limestone Country first hand with their friends and the Year 6 children from Settle Primary School. This will be part of their work for the John Muir Award.

**ART (Drawing Technique; Shadow Puppets; Saxon Art):** We will learn to use more than just our fingers when drawing and use sketching techniques which require slow and careful observation. We will work in collaboration to make intricate shadow puppets to tell our own stories and we will study the detailed geometric and interlacing designs of traditional Anglo-Saxon art to inspire some of our own work using a range of media.

**DESIGN TECHNOLOGY (Frame Structures):** Linked with our science topic, forces, in this unit we will learn how lightweight materials can be arranged to make very strong structures.

**MUSIC (Rhythm):** In Class 3 we will be learning to keep the beat in music and how to layer rhythms on top, writing our own percussion scores to play together.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (Believing):** In this topic, we will find out how people of different faiths live their lives in accordance with their beliefs.

**PSHE (Me and My Relationships; Valuing Difference):** This unit explores the idea of 'difference' amongst our friends and in our communities and how we should respond to it. We will discuss false differences and stereotypes but also the ways in which real differences may enrich our lives.

**READING** - Reading can be an enjoyable and incredibly valuable activity for children. Ideally, the children in Class 3 should get into the routine of reading for a short period every day, such as 10 - 15 minutes before bed, so that the story they are reading is fresh and a stimulating part of their lives. If you have the opportunity to read with your child at times, this can enhance the enjoyment and the value of reading enormously.

Please keep a record of what your child reads in their reading record which will go out this week. They will no longer be expected to complete a 'VIPERS' task.

**HOMEWORK** - This will go out on Tuesdays and should be returned the following Monday with the children's reading records. It will usually consist of a list of spellings (which we will also practise on class during the week) and a maths worksheet which revises what the children have recently done in class.

**PE & DANCE** - PE will continue to take place on Wednesday afternoons while begin next Tuesday morning. Please make sure the children have their PE kit ready on these days.

**AFTER SCHOOL** - If your child is to be picked up by anyone other than the usual person, please let Admin or Mrs Allen know.

**NOTE - we remain a nut aware school so only fruit or vegetable snacks are to be brought into school.**

If there is anything you would like to discuss with me about this newsletter or anything else, please email me at [jbelle@kim.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:jbelle@kim.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Kind regards,

Mr Bell (Class 3 teacher)