



Class 3 Newsletter

Summer 2023

Dear children, parents and families of Class 3,

Welcome back to school for the last term of the Year, I hope you have had a wonderful Easter break. This term, our overarching theme, which will run through much of our work is 'Blue Planet'. Below is an outline of the work in more detail.

LITERACY

Stories which raise issues - Our class novel this term is 'Blueback', written by celebrated Australian author, Tim Winton. The story raises a number of issues relating to friendships, growing up and the environment, which we will discuss during our class readings and in our topic work about the oceans. Using 'Blueback' as a model, we will write our own stories which explore issues, developing strong characters and using our new understanding of figurative language to create other-worldly settings.

Discussion Writing: In this unit, the children will read and learn to write 'discussions' or balanced arguments. Various issues which arise during our story shared reading and as we dig deeper into our topic work, will provide a wide range of subjects for the children to develop their discussion writing skills.

Reviews: Our geography, history and PSHE lessons will throw up many interesting topics for debate. By reading a range of well-written arguments on these and other topics, we will learn how to make our own arguments more coherent, balanced and persuasive and apply this knowledge in our own writing.

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

MATHS

Statistics: reading, interpreting and drawing bar charts, line graphs and pie charts; reading, interpreting and drawing bar tables and timetables; finding the mean.

Shape: understanding and using degrees; classifying, estimating; measuring and drawing angles; calculating angles around a point, on a straight line and when vertically opposite; angles in triangles, quadrilaterals and polygons; regular and irregular polygons; circles (Y6 only); identifying and drawing nets of 3-D shapes; drawing shapes accurately.

Position and direction: reading and plotting points in all four quadrants; solving problems with co-ordinates; translations and reflections; lines of symmetry.

Decimals: adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals; decimal sequences; multiplying and dividing decimals by 10, 100 and 1000.

Negative numbers: counting through zero; comparing and ordering negative numbers; finding the difference between negative numbers.

Converting units: converting units of length, mass, capacity and time; converting between metric and imperial units; calculating with timetables.

Volume: cubic centimetres; comparing and estimating volume and capacity.

SCIENCE

Electricity: In this unit we will discover the principles of electricity through experimentation, as well as how it can be produced (sustainably and unsustainably) and its dangers. This will help us to design and construct electrical circuits, with multiple components, for specific purposes. The children will also learn to draw formal circuit diagrams and to use a more scientific vocabulary when discussing electricity.

Life Cycles: We will compare the life cycles of animals from different classes, including insects, amphibians, fish and mammals. We will find out about different types of reproduction and learn about local and global issues which are affecting the life cycles of different species.

OTHER SUBJECTS

Geography (Oceans): Here we will learn about the look at the unique characteristics of different marine and coastal environments and how people use and manage the resources they provide. We will also learn how coastal communities depend on oceans for their survival and how economic activities have changed over time.

History (Explorers continued): We will continue our study of the explorers this term, looking at figures from the 20th and 21st centuries, including the polar explorers, mountain explorers and underwater explorers.

Art (Picasso): In art this term, we will learn about the work of Pablo Picasso. We will study how his paintings and sculptures were influenced by traditional art forms and how they have led to new artistic directions such as cubism and 'abstract' art. We will then use these ideas in our own paintings and sculptures.

Design & Technology (Electric Motors): Linked with our science topic, in DT this term we will design and make a range of models which incorporate electric motors.

Religious Education (Living Faiths): In this topic, we will find out how people of different faiths live their lives in accordance with their beliefs.

PSHE (Being My Best, Growing and Changing): 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. Then, linked with our science topic 'life cycles', we will learn about changes to the human body as we grow.

READING - I am so pleased that the Class 3 children have become regular readers. It has filled them with all kinds of new ideas and is growing their vocabularies so that they can express themselves with new levels of depth, colour and clarity. Thank you for all of your support with reading and with the reading records.

PE, Tennis & Rugby - PE will continue to take place on Wednesday afternoons while tennis and rugby will be added to the list of sports this term. Tennis will take place on Tuesday mornings and rugby on Thursday mornings.

SATS - SATS tests will take place for the Year 6 children next month, with tests on Tuesday 9th - Friday 12th May. The children know the format of these tests well and although preparation and practice for SATS has been ongoing, more focussed practice will begin Monday 1st May to ensure the children are prepared to do their very best.

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

Kind regards,

Mr Bell (Class 3 teacher)