



# Class 3 Newsletter Summer 2024

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear children, parents and families of Class 3,

I hope you have all had a wonderful Easter break. Although we are still finishing some of last term's topics due to the very short Spring Term, this table provides an outline of our new topics and themes for this Summer Term.

## LITERACY

**Descriptive Writing:** In this short unit, we will use the short film, 'The Alchemist's Letter' and read the short story, 'The Viewer' (by Gary Crew and Sean Tan) for inspiration as we grow our descriptive vocabularies and experiment with new literary devices in our own writing.

**Narratives (Stories with a Message):** A short story called, 'The Water Tower' (by Gary Crew), will be our first example of a story with a message to discuss in class. Whilst learning how great characters and settings are created, we will discuss how the actions of characters lead to consequences which authors invite their readers to think about. We will then read short stories from 'The Fib' (by George Layton) and write our own carefully-plotted stories with a lesson for our readers to consider.

**Discussions:** In this unit, we will learn to explore both sides of an issue in a formal writing style. Our geography and PSHE topics will provide a wide range of issues for discussion.

**Reviews:** As we read a range of reviews - from restaurants to online games - we will learn techniques to entertain, influence and manipulate the reader. In response to real and fictitious experiences, the children will write their own formal reviews.

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

## MATHS

**Perimeter, Area & Volume:** perimeter of a range of shapes; area of rectangles, triangles and parallelograms; perimeter and area of compound and irregular shapes and finding missing values; volume of cubes and cuboids; the relationship between capacity and volume.

**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.

---

**Measurement (converting units):** metric measures; converting metric measures; calculating with metric measures; miles and kilometres; imperial measures.

---

**Stages of Human Development:** The children will learn about the eight stages of human development, from the foetus to late adulthood, finding out about the changes that occur to our bodies and minds and what causes these changes.

**Properties of Materials:** This unit follows on from our Spring Term topic, 'Properties of Materials', but this term we will investigate the processes involved in changing materials and the characteristics of reversible and irreversible changes. There will also be many opportunities for the children to carry out and design their own investigations.

---

**GEOGRAPHY (Mapping Skills):** Using local OS maps and maps of various places in the United Kingdom, we will practise interpreting OS map symbols, reading map scales and describing relief features from contour lines. We will also learn about longitude and latitude, six figure co-ordinates and direction using an eight-point compass.

**HISTORY (Education through Time):** As the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our school approaches, we will learn about key moments in the history of education in the United Kingdom. We will learn how acts of parliament led to universal education and what schools were like in the early days - including our own!

**ART (Activism):** In this topic, we will learn about 'activist' artists, such as Luba Lukova, who use their artworks to express opinions and to push for positive changes in society. We will learn about the medium of 'print' and use techniques such as screen and lino printing, sgraffito, collage and stencilling to create posters.

**DESIGN TECHNOLOGY (Arch Structures):** We will learn to recognise elliptical, parabolic and catenary arch shapes and how they have been used in construction. Using a range of materials, we will create our own arch structures, after careful design.

**MUSIC (Harmony):** In this unit, we will learn the principles of 'harmony' in music and how to create major and minor chords with the voice and instruments. We will combine elements of music to make compositions in three parts.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (Living):** Through videos, books and first-person accounts, we will explore how Muslims and Christians are influenced by their faith to live a good and purposeful life.

**PSHE (Being my Best; Growing & Changing):** These units link closely with this term's science topic, 'Stages of Human Development'. We will discuss reasonable and dangerous risks, our changing bodies and emotions and some of the challenges faced by teenagers.

---

**READING** - Thank you for your continuing support with reading at home. I feel that many of the children have developed a love for reading and I hope this continues for the rest of this year and beyond. The children are rewarded for regular reading with ticks on our chart. To encourage great reading habits, bonus ticks are given to children who read every day of the week. Please make sure to sign their reading records / planners at least once each week.

**HOMEWORK** - Homework will continue to go out on Tuesdays (and sometimes Mondays) and should be returned the following Monday with the children's reading records / planners. Last term, the children were asked to write a sentence for each of the words in their spelling list. This term, I would like the children to choose five words from the list and to write a neat, imaginative and carefully constructed sentence for each of them. A sixth sentence should also be written incorporating an exciting new word collected from reading books. Checking is an essential part of the writing process, so please encourage the children to use the spelling lists inside their homework books or dictionaries for accurate spelling.

**PE and Sport** - This term, tennis will take place on Tuesday mornings and Rugby on Thursday mornings, each for 45 minutes. There will also be a PE session on Wednesday afternoons. The children will need to have a clean PE kit in school 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)