

## Autumn term 2024 in Class 3

This is the road map for the first term in Class 3, with an overview of what we will cover in each topic. Please see the back of this sheet for general class information.

### Geography/History: Volcanoes and life in Pompeii

A fiery start to the term! We begin with learning about the physical aspects of volcanoes, including the Earth's structure and how this leads to volcanic formation. We will also consider why people around the world choose to settle near volcanoes, and our historical focus will be the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and the discovery of Pompeii.

### Science: Rocks, Soils and Fossils

We are going to spend this term learning about different types of rock formation and complete lots of hands-on investigations to determine which samples we can identify. We will then spend some time poking through different soil samples and finding out how these are made. Finally, we will be looking at how fossils are formed and what we can learn from different specimens. We will also research the life of famous fossil hunter, Mary Anning.

### Computing

Online safety will be a key focus, plus exploration of writing for different audiences and completing effective online searches. The children will also be encouraged to access some learning on Google Classroom, and use docs or slides to present their work.

### PHSE: Families and friendships; Health and wellbeing

The children will be considering aspects of family life and appreciating how there are different types of families. We will also be discussing online relationships, plus respecting ourselves and others. The children will be encouraged to identify their strengths and achievements, and learn about goal setting and the need for resilience when faced with setbacks.

### PE

This term will cover dance, invasion games (those that involve attacking and defending) and gymnastics.

### English

Following a look at our whole school book, *The Circus Comes to the Village*, we begin the year with a poetry focus. The children will study and write their own version of Kit Wright's *The Magic Box*, before moving on to exploring a mixture of new and well-known fables.

There is also opportunity to do some cross-curricular writing on our science and geography topic based on the text *The Pebble in my Pocket*. Then, we move onto narrative writing based around *The Bear and the Piano* by David Litchfield.

### Maths

Most of the first half of the term will be spent ensuring the children have a secure sense of place value. Children in Year 3 are expected to tackle values up to, and including, 1,000 while Year 4 extends to 10,000. We will then cover various mental and written strategies for addition and subtraction. Regular times tables practice will be woven throughout!

### RE: Harvest; Prophethood

We will be linking Jesus' teachings and parables to modern day acts of charity and considering the things we have to be thankful for. For our second faith focus we will be learning about what prophethood means to the Islamic community.

### Art & Design ; D&T

To link with the arrival of the circus in Little Gaddesden and our whole school book focus, we will be using the collage style of Henri Matisse to inspire our own artwork.

We will also understand how we can use different materials to replicate the fossilisation process in DT.

### Spanish

The children will learn common greetings and learn vocabulary to describe themselves and others. We will look at some key grammar and learn appropriate pronunciations.

### Music

Singing expressively with an awareness of others, with particular focus on our Harvest preparations. We will also be having whole class music lessons with a specialist on Tuesdays.

Reading

Phonics

Spelling

Collective Worship

Autumn 2024

## Class 3 notes:

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful summer break. Thank you so much for your generosity at the end of last term with gifts and kind messages. The Year 3s have already impressed us with their keen start to KS2, while the Year 4s have been kind and supportive in sharing what they know!

### Homework:

Homework will be a series of tasks that are handed out at the start of each half term, and your child can choose **one piece** to complete each week **in any order**. Homework books will be handed out on a Friday and completed work should be handed back by Thursday in order to be marked and returned.

### Times tables:

Year 4 will have the Multiplication Tables Check towards the end of the year, which requires them to recall all times tables facts up to 12 x 12. Short but regular practice is the best way to approach this. The more secure the children are with their times tables, the more fluently they will be able to tackle all areas of maths, as it helps with their pattern spotting and understanding of numerical relationships.

Year 3 will be consolidating the 2s, 5s and 10x tables which were introduced in Year 2. They will then move onto learning the 3s, 4s and 8s.

### Reading:

Reading is an crucial part of KS2, but we also want to encourage the children to become readers for their own enjoyment! As they get older, they start to have a better understanding of themselves in this regard, and we encourage them to seek out books and authors that appeal to them. While reading their own colour band books is still an important way to develop fluency and approach comprehension, we also encourage the children to explore a range of texts, and are welcome to also choose books from our reading corner to read at home, or to bring in books that they have been enjoying from their home bookshelves.

### P.E.:

We will have lessons on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays**. Children are to come into school wearing their P.E. kits on these days.

As always, please feel free to come and see us if you have any questions or concerns, or leave a message with the office. Thank you for all your support; we are looking forward to the year ahead!

With best wishes,

Miss Wheeler and Miss Hennessey