



January 2024

Dear Parents,

From all of the Y3 team, can we say a heartfelt thank you for the lovely cards and generous gifts we received from you at Christmas. We were touched by your kindness and thoughtfulness.

We at Trent recognise that your children’s success is often attributed to tremendous commitment from the whole family team, so thank you in advance for your support. This letter is for your information, outlining the learning taking place in Year 3 this term; we will be covering the following:

Spring 1st Half Term Topic- Tremors

Spring 2nd Half Term Topic- Gods and Mortals

Subject / Area	Links to previous learning	Learning intentions	How you can help
Literacy	We will be building on the children’s previous learning in English. Last year they covered units of poetry, narrative and non-fiction writing.	We will be using both of our topics as a stimulus for our writing. We will be researching these areas and using the information we learn to write in a variety of styles including poetry, narrative, newspaper articles and writing our own myths. Reading Some of our reading objectives will be met through whole class guided reading sessions. This term we will be reading <i>The Firework-Maker's Daughter</i> , <i>Escape from Pompeii</i> , <i>Volcano</i> poems and non-fiction texts linked to our topic. Grammar We will be having a big focus on grammatical terminology and how to recognise these in writing. We will be looking specifically at: -subordinate clauses including the use of commas -apostrophes for singular possession	Reading/researching our topic areas will help consolidate your child’s understanding in these lessons and support them with generating some great ideas for their writing. Please do continue to read with your child and encourage them to read to you daily. This really does have a huge impact in all areas of their learning. Periodically homework will be set through Atom to help reinforce classroom learning related to

		<p>-fronted adverbials -speech punctuation</p> <p>We will also be increasing our vocabulary by using a thesaurus to find better words to use in our writing.</p> <p>Spellings</p> <p>Spelling is an essential part of the New National Curriculum. This term, we will be looking at spelling patterns containing suffixes and prefixes. We will also be encouraging the children to use etymology – word roots – to help them with their spelling patterns.</p> <p>Handwriting</p> <p>We will be continuing to develop a more fluid and controlled join in the children’s writing.</p>	<p>grammar and spellings.</p>
Maths	<p>We will be building on the children’s previous learning in maths.</p>	<p>The children worked incredibly hard last term to secure and develop their arithmetic and calculation skills. This term, we will be using this knowledge to apply across the other areas of maths.</p> <p>Multiplication and division: increasing our quick fire knowledge of the 3, 4 and 8 times tables and their inverses. The children will also be learning both informal and formal methods of short multiplication and division. We will be starting our Year 3 Fractions topic for the first half term.</p> <p>We will have a unit of length and perimeter. We will be recapping learning of measuring in metres and centimetres, looking at equivalent lengths and measuring and calculating perimeter.</p>	<p>Please try to make sure your child knows their multiplication tables. This is another essential part of the New National Curriculum and the children will be formally tested on them in Year 4.</p> <p>Give your child time to log on to ‘TTRockStars’ and ‘Numbots’. This will really support their mental maths.</p>
Cross Curricular Topic History, Geography, Art and Design, Computing, D&T.	<p>When the children were in Reception, they looked at volcano planets.</p> <p>The children have</p>	<p>Our Creative Curriculum Topic for the first half of the Spring term will be learning about the ‘Tremors’ topic. This will include learning about natural disasters, volcanoes and different weather.</p> <p>In the second half term we will be learning about ‘Gods and Mortals, focusing on life during Ancient Greek times. We will learn what life was like for people during this time and how life in Greece has changed.</p>	<p>Please give your child plenty of opportunities to read stories based on our topic.</p>

	<p>already been introduced to timelines and how historical topics fit together in our Stone Age topic and in previous years.</p>	<p>History</p> <p>Spring 1 - we will be learning about the story of Pompeii</p> <p>Spring 2 – timelines of Ancient Greece, describing events from the past using dates when things happened and using research skills to find answers to specific answers for historical questions.</p> <p>Geography</p> <p>Spring 1- we will be learning about the Earth’s geological wonders. This develops children’s knowledge of rocks, volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis and their impact on humans and the environment.</p> <p>Spring 2 –Using map skills</p> <p>Art and Design and D&T</p> <p>Spring 1-we will be looking into colour that can be used to help with the mood of art. For example, we can use bright, warm and light colours to represent the ferocity of the larva in the volcano.</p> <p>Spring 2- Designing a mythical creature, identifying techniques used by different artists, writing the Greek alphabet. We are also creating our own Medusa Head by following a step by step plan, choosing the right equipment and materials.</p> <p>Computing</p> <p>We will be having a big focus on online safety throughout the school year.</p> <p>Spring 1-We will be using Computing to understand more about creating media – specifically using the Scratch program on the laptops.</p> <p>Spring 2-We will be learning more about desktop publishing.</p>	
<p>Science</p>	<p>Mary Anning is covered in Year 1 as part of their</p>	<p>First half term: Rocks</p> <p>We will be learning to name and classify different types of rocks. We will be looking at the similarities and differences between different rocks and how they are used.</p>	<p>Looking through books based on these topics will be of great benefit.</p>

	dinosaur topic.	<p>Our inspirational individual will be Mary Anning.</p> <p>After half term we begin our topic about plants. Exploring their different parts, functions and ability transport water.</p>	
R.E.	The children are introduced to Judaism in Year 2 and we will be building on this learning.	<p>We will be following the new Diocesan Syllabus for Religious Education. During the first half term we will be investigating the question: What does it mean to be a Jew?</p> <p>We will be learning about Judaism and what the Jewish faith looks like including the significance of the 10 commandments and Passover.</p> <p>After half term, we will be exploring the questions:</p> <p>How do Christians believe following Jesus' New Commandments makes a difference?</p> <p>Who is the most important person in the Easter Story?</p> <p>We will be learning about the Easter story through the eyes of the different people who were there in order to help us explore and answer the topic question.</p>	Spending time talking to your child about what we have learnt during our RE lessons will really support them in their understanding in our topics this term.
French		The children will receive a specialist French lesson each week. They will be revising and adding to their vocabulary including links to the Creative Curriculum topic. This term the children will be learning about words to names of fruits, days of the week and months of a year.	You can support your child by discussing lessons or topics and by encouraging additional personal research or practice.
Music		This term, Year 3 will begin to develop keyboard skills. They will learn to read basic musical notation and use this to learn to play 'One Love' by Bob Marley. Pupils who can already play the keyboard/piano will work on their ensemble skills and add extra parts to the performance such as the bassline and chords.	
P.E. (Monday and Wednesday)	We have learned how to play netball and have created our	<p>In PE this term, Year 3 will be doing Gymnastics for their indoor lessons. The focus will be: <i>Can they perform a range of balances with control?</i></p> <p>The pupils will be developing their ability to feel a balance on a range of different body parts. They will be taught to use a range of</p>	Please make sure your child wears their full PE kit to school on Mondays and Wednesdays.

	own dances.	<p>patch and point balances. They will be encouraged to hold their balance for a minimum of 4 seconds to show control. In group work, they will link their new skills together to perform sequences to an audience.</p> <p>Their outdoor topic will be Netball. The pupils will be working on passing the ball and catching it with more control. They will start to show an understanding of footwork; landing on one foot and then the other. They will learn how to dodge into a space and mark a player to prevent them from getting the ball. Finally they will learn how to shoot a ball into a net with some success.</p>	
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Home Learning (Atom homework)

Home learning will be set via Atom homework on a Friday and will usually consist of a piece of Maths, English and Science piece. Mental Maths and Spelling activities may also be included. Atom homework is due in on Thursdays. Please encourage your child to get into the routine of returning home learning on time as this will help encourage positive work habits and independence.

Reading

Your child will continue to benefit from daily guided reading sessions at school. Please make sure your child reads every night. Currently your child has a reading journal which should be signed each day by an adult at home. Please feel free to leave a comment if you wish.

Equipment

Thank you to all who have organised the school pencil case containing the equipment your child will need this year. Items regularly need replacing and we would be grateful if you could support us with this. The items your Year 3 child will need are: a clear pencil case, a school pencil, a rigid 30cm ruler, a sharpener, a purple pen, a glue stick, a yellow highlighter pen, a whiteboard pen and a whiteboard eraser. Your child will only need a pen once they have earned their pen license - we will let you know when to purchase a pen.

Beginning of the day and end of the day arrangements

If anyone else is collecting your child, please do either let us know in the morning or call the school office. If you have any questions at the end of the day, please could you wait until all of the children are dismissed safely to their adults so we can follow safeguarding protocol.

Uniform

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform each day, including a tie. Please support us in ensuring that the school's uniform guidelines are adhered to. Can you make sure that anything your child brings into school, especially clothes and snack boxes, are clearly labelled with their name. The children find it very distressing when they can't find their things and we use a lot of valuable teaching time locating and identifying them. Thank you for your help and support with this.

Toys

Please could you make sure all toys are kept at home. Football cards and fidget toys are not allowed in school even for golden time/break time as these often cause lots of upset and arguments in the classroom especially when items are lost. Thank you for your understanding and support with this.

Important dates

Tuesday 23rd January- Natural History Museum trip

Tuesday 6th February – Tremor museum in the afternoon (time to be confirmed)

Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th February- Parent Consultations

Thursday 7th March – Greek day workshop “History off the page”

Friday 8th March- Year 3 class assembly at 9am (with book look after)

We look forward to another fantastic term ahead. Please do email the office if you have any further questions and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Best wishes,

Miss Khorasani, Mrs Achilleos and Mrs Murray (The Year 3 Team)