



September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year! We hope you had a restful summer break, and that your children are ready for a busy year ahead. Year 3 is a fantastic time; it is full of hard work and good fun. Our priority for the Autumn Term is to ensure Year 3 are happy and feel settled. In class and through the activities planned, we will focus on their friendships, happiness, collaborative learning and well-being.

We are looking forward to working with you and your children, and we know that we will have a brilliant year together. At Trent, we recognise that your child'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.

Throughout the Autumn Term, we will be covering the following:

Subject	Learning taking place at school	Links to previous learning to use as discussion points at home	Additional ideas to support your child at home
Relationships and Health Education (RHE)	<p>During the Autumn Term, we will focus on the unit 'Health and Well-being: Emotions and Feelings' and 'Keeping Safe' to support children in their return to school.</p> <p>Through RHE sessions, children will discuss their feelings and recognise the feelings of other people. We will also discuss how feelings can change and what appropriate responses to different situations might be.</p> <p>We will continue with 'Relationships – Peer Influence/Pressure' where we will consider the importance of self-</p>		

	respect and critical thinking in decision making.		
<p>Project</p> <p>Stone, Bronze, Iron</p> <p>(History, Geography, Art and Design, Computing, Design and Technology)</p>	<p>‘Stone, Bronze, Iron’, focuses on life during the Stone Age, Bronze Age and the Iron Age periods. We will learn what life was like for people during these times and how the people of Britain developed over thousands of years from the Stone Age to the Roman invasion. In Art and DT, we will produce our own Neolithic artwork and be creative with the same resources the stone age people would have had to use.</p> <p>We will be covering skills in Computing through all topics covered this year, focusing this term on internet safety and computer systems and networks.</p>	Reception: Familiar Tales	<p>Children should be able to carry out individual research and project work to develop understanding in areas of interest to them.</p> <p>Below this table are a couple of the websites we will be using in lessons to support our learning. Children can also use these at home to really underpin their learning.</p>
<p>English</p>	<p>Throughout the term we will be investigating different texts to help develop ideas for writing.</p> <p>Through a variety of texts, we will be learning to write character descriptions, adventure stories and newspaper reports during the first half term.</p> <p>In the second half term we will be focusing on poetry, instructions and non-chronological reports.</p> <p>Spellings</p> <p>As you are aware, we have moved away from sending lists of words going home for the children to learn and be tested on. Instead, we will be teaching the children to be detectives and to develop their phonic skills they have already learned, morphemic (units of meaning) information that we will teach them and increasing knowledge</p>	<p>Spelling patterns learned in KS1.</p> <p>First 100 high frequency words.</p> <p>(Lists of these will be made available on ‘Google Classrooms’ for your information, as well as the list of Y3/4 words.)</p>	<p>Please discuss learning from the current topic with your child and ask them what their writing targets are. Encourage use of a dictionary during home learning.</p> <p>Please support your child in completing their reading journals and by signing off their reading challenges for books read at home. Try to ensure that your child maintains their reading habit (at least 20 minutes every day is advisable for this age group).</p> <p>Please also support your child to develop a consistent cursive style of writing. The children have the opportunity to earn their ‘Pen License’ in Year</p>

	<p>of where words come from to tackle unfamiliar spelling words.</p> <p>We will be basing this program on the National Curriculum guidance for spelling, including the statutory words for Y3 and Y4.</p>		<p>3 which is very exciting for them.</p>
Maths	<p>Maths will follow the National Curriculum year group objectives. This first half term will be spent securing and developing skills in number including place value which involves reading and writing numbers up to 1,000. We will be counting forwards and backwards from given numbers. The children will learn to count forwards and backwards in 1's 10's and 100's up to 1,000. Children will be ordering 3-digit numbers and placing them correctly on a number line.</p> <p>We will move on to adding and subtracting 2-digit and 3-digit numbers. Mentally at first and then children will learn how to use formal written methods correctly.</p> <p>From there we will move on to understanding multiplication and division and what these processes do to a number. We will spend some time going over the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Then we will begin learning the 3, 4 and 8 times tables. These are a key Year 3 objective.</p>	<p>We will be building on the skills and strategies already taught in KS1.</p>	<p>Counting with your children forwards and backwards is extremely valuable. It is a Y3 target for them to know numbers to 1,000. Start at different numbers for e.g.</p> <p>221, 222, 223, 224, 225 and then count backwards.</p> <p>Repeat this starting with a different number.</p> <p>Challenge them to go over a tens or hundreds number;</p> <p>257, 258, 259, 260, 261</p> <p>198, 199, 200, 201, 202</p> <p>Please try to make sure your child knows their 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables and division. We will be recapping on these to start with and then moving onto learn the 3, 4 8 times tables. This is another essential part of the new National Curriculum. We will be doing early morning challenges to support the children with this in class.</p>
Science	<p>In Science, we will learn about 'Light'. We will be investigating; light sources (natural and man-made), that we need light to see, reflecting light, making</p>	<p>Physics is a new topic</p>	<p>You could support your child by discussing what light is, where it comes from, what is darkness?</p>

	shadows and how to keep ourselves safe from UV rays in sunlight.	introduced in KS2.	Talk to them about the benefits and dangers caused by sunlight.
Religious Education	<p>This term begins with a Christianity topic. We start by looking at how the Bible came to be. We then look at the different books of the Bible and what is meant by the term 'metanarrative'. We learn about why the Bible is sometimes referred to as a map for Christian life and what the Bible teaches about faith, with reflection of what faith means to us.</p> <p>Finally, we discuss how Christians demonstrate faith today in spreading the 'Good News'.</p> <p>After half term we learn about Advent; how it is a time of preparation and looks at the signs in the Bible that point to the birth of Jesus. It looks at the impact of the message of Christmas on the people of God and then the clues to be found in the celebration of Epiphany about Jesus' life.</p> <p>We also spend time around 11th November thinking about Remembrance Day.</p>	<p>The children would have looked at the Bible in KS1 and be aware of the key sections. We build on this in Year 3.</p>	<p>You can support your child by discussing lessons or topics and encourage additional personal research or practice. Discuss the Bible and how it is important to us as Christians. How does the Bible help us to be better Christians?</p> <p>Discuss Advent and how it is a time for preparation. What does the Advent Wreath look like? What do the different parts represent and symbolise?</p> <p>Discuss Epiphany and how it celebrates Jesus' life.</p>
Physical Exercise	Children will have two weekly PE sessions. One session will focus on floor gymnastics and the other will be dance (expression through music).		Please support your child in remembering on which days they need to wear their PE kits to school (Mondays and Wednesdays).
Music	<p>Year 3 will have weekly music lessons on Wednesdays. In the first half-term the children will develop playing by ear and notation skills to perform a number of pieces as a class band using tuned percussion</p> <p>In the second half-term, pupils will mainly be preparing for the Nativity. They will work on developing good</p>		

	singing technique through learning the set songs.		
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 describe themselves and their families.		You can support your child by discussing lessons or topics and by encouraging additional personal research or practice.

Useful Websites to Support Project Learning

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/british_prehistory/

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/celts/parents/> (watch some interactive stories from the Iron Age)

<https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/history/stone-age/cave-painting/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/z2gghv4>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zcfygk7>

Maths websites

<http://ictgames.com/rangeArranger/>

<http://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/countingCaterpillar/index.html>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/coconut-ordering>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/mental-maths-train>

English websites

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/games/embed/crystal-explorers>

<https://collins.co.uk/pages/big-cat-ebooks>

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/english/primary-spelling/spelling-year-3-age-7-8/>

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/spelling-in-year-3-and-year-4>

PE

Year 3 will have PE on Mondays and Wednesdays. Children need to wear full Trent PE kit to school on these days. As we aim for lessons to be outdoors as often as possible, we recommend that children wear their outdoor PE kit (green jogging bottoms, Trent PE top, green jumper). We ask that your child wears either black or white trainers. We recommend providing your child with a spare pair of plimsolls for them to keep in school in case they need to change their shoes during the school day due to the weather.

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 a Thursday. 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 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 purchased the school pencil case containing the equipment your child will need for this year. The children have already shown responsibility in looking after their own equipment, however if items need replacing, we would be grateful if you could support us in this.

The items your child will need are: a clear pencil case, a pencil, a ruler, a sharpener, a glue stick, a purple pen, a yellow highlighter and a whiteboard pen. As Y3 progresses, children who's handwriting is consistently neat, joined and easy to read will be given a pen license. This means that in subjects such as English and project work, they will be allowed to write in pen rather than pencil. Once your child has a pen license, they will need a blue non-erasable writing pen (no biros please). Please check with your child on a regular basis if they need any new items. We recommend that your child always has two pencils in their pencil case and, once they have a pen license, two pens.

We do not allow children to use erasers in school as their mistakes as well as how they have fixed them give us valuable assessment information. It is also important that they only use school equipment and stationary unless otherwise arranged. Children bringing in their own pens and pencils will be asked to take them home as these often cause lots of upset and arguments in the classroom.

Please provide your child with a water bottle every day and a healthy fruit snack to eat during morning break time. Water bottles are especially important at the moment as, due to our effort to reduce the risk of infection, the water fountains are not in use.

Your child (or perhaps their school uniform!) will benefit greatly if you are able to provide them with an art shirt. An old shirt or t-shirt from someone bigger than them would be fine. If you could write your child's name on their art shirt and send it in to school as soon as possible, we would be really grateful.

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.

Behaviour Policy

The Behaviour Policy has been clearly explained to all the children across the school. They understand the standard of behaviour expected of them and are responding positively. In Year 3, we will be encouraging and recognising positive behaviour by rewarding children who do well in a variety of ways.

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.

Important Dates:

Friday 6th October 2023: British Museum trip. More details to follow.

Wednesday 18th October: Parent Consultations- 3.40pm- 6.30pm

Thursday 19th October: Parent Consultations- 4.30pm-7.30pm

Week Beginning 5th December: Year 3 take the acting parts in the Christmas Nativity which will take place on two evenings and one afternoon this week. More details to follow. The children really enjoy this chance to act, sing and have a lot of fun.

Year 3 and 2- Christmas Production: Tuesday 5th December @ 2.00pm

Tuesday 5th December @ 6.00pm

Wednesday 6th December @ 6.00pm

A final request

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 with this.

We look forward to working with you during the terms ahead and we know it will be a brilliant year.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Best wishes,

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