



Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter - November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you have had an enjoyable half-term break.

I wanted to write and let you know that the children have settled well into Year 3 and have made a really positive start with their new learning. We have an exciting half-term ahead planned for Year 3, so I wanted to share some of our topics and explain new routines.

Below you will find some of the topics we will be exploring over the second half of the Autumn Term.

Autumn Term	
Maths	Number and place value; mental addition and subtraction; mental multiplication and division; measurements.
English	Instructions, stories set in the past, non-chronological reports
Topic	Who first lived in Britain? (The Stone Age)
Science	Rocks and Soils
RE	Beginnings: Islam and Christianity
PE	Teamwork Games
PSHE	New Beginnings, Getting on and Falling Out/ Say No to Bullying
Computing	Coding, Spelling Shed, TT Rockstars



PE

PE will take place on a Tuesday afternoon. Please ensure your child has their full kit on these days. Their PE kit should consist of a white T-shirt, navy or black shorts and black pumps or trainers. Please make sure each item of clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name. In addition, long hair should be tied back and earrings should be taped or removed for safety purposes.

Homework



Due to current circumstances, Thorpe School is trying to limit the volume of resources being sent home and brought back into school, therefore homework tasks will be as follows.



Spelling and Spelling Shed Home Learning

Each Friday, your child will be sent home with a weekly list of spellings to learn and a paper activity related to this. You do not need to return the paper activity to school. I will also be setting the same spellings on the Spelling Shed website so that your child has further chance to practise. I will be keeping each weekly spelling list active on the Spelling Shed website until the end of this half-term so that your child can dip back in and out to practise any rules they may have found tricky.



TT Rockstars Home Learning

I will also be setting weekly timetables for your child to learn on the TT Rockstars website. Your child needs to click on either the Garage or Arena tab to access the times tables I have set them. The other tabs are not appropriate for Year 3 at this stage as they feature all times tables up to 12×12 , which is not a curriculum objective for Year 3. It is important that your child can practise the times tables set so that they are increasingly fast at recalling related multiplication and division facts. For a child to become fluent at a particular time table, we are aiming for automatic recall without having to rote count. Focus times tables for Year 3 include: 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables, but to begin with I will be focussing on only one or two of these tables until your child is fluent. As they progress and learn tables off by heart, I will set new tables for them to learn.



Reading

Your support at home is invaluable and I would ask you to continue to hear your child read as much as possible. Research shows that even 10 minutes shared reading can make a huge difference to not only your child's reading fluency and understanding but also to their overall academic progress.

When reading with your child, please take time to ask them questions about the book to check their understanding. Please record how they have got on in their reading record book. We are continuing with the reading bookmark system your child was familiar with last year. This is a whole school approach to recognise and celebrate home reading. Additional whole class reading lessons take place in class twice a week, where the focus is vocabulary and comprehension.

I have enclosed a sheet with useful questions that you can ask your child as they are reading to you. Try to choose one question from each section. This will check that your child really understands what they are reading and could lead you into further conversations about the book.

I hope that this has been helpful and if you do have any further questions, please do not hesitate to come and have a word.

Yours sincerely,

Miss McTasney
Year 3 Class Teacher