

# Year 3 Class Newsletter, Autumn 2, 2021-22

WELCOME BACK FROM YOUR HALF TERM BREAK. HOPE YOU ALL HAD A RELAXING AND ENJOYABLE BREAK, FROM MRS HOGAN AND MRS GILL.

We are pleased to say that the children have settled in well to the work and routines of year 3. They are all working hard and are making progress in all areas of the curriculum.

## The Term Ahead:

In the coming term, we look forward to encouraging the children to be the best they can be. We are sure that together we can help them to reach their full potential, and we believe this is the most important aspect of teaching.

*Any queries, please email or telephone the school office, and we will get back to you asap. Check out the school website and Twitter search at @WhaplodeY3 for useful information and photographs.*

## THE CURRICULUM

Connections: Our big question this year is, "Do humans live in harmony with the world?" and this term's question is, "How did Ancient Egyptians use the Nile?" We will be learning about different aspects of daily life in Ancient Egypt as well as considering how we find out about the past using different sources of information.

*We are excited in Year 3 about studying Ancient Egypt this term and thank you to all the boys and girls who completed a holiday project. We were very impressed with all of them and these will be displayed in the classroom and in the hall, for everyone to admire. Below is a selection of the projects:—*



*On a Wednesday, the class will continue to be taught by Mrs Garner. They will continue to do some great Science, Maths, Computing and Guided Reading.*

*Important days for PE: Basketball on Wednesday and Dance on Friday. Children should come to school in their full PE kit on Wednesday and Friday.*

*Weekly homework will be issued on Friday in homework books. New spellings will also be set on Friday and tested the following Thursday. It is vital that all the children learn these spellings and it is better to practise them over several days rather than trying to cram the day before the spelling test. The children will be given a hard copy of the homework and the*

**ENGLISH:** We are starting the term with non-fiction writing, based on the book 'Once Upon A Raindrop' by James Carter. We will then move onto Poetry where the children will write their own poems using "The River" by Valerie Bloom, to inspire them. Our narrative writing this term will be based on an alternative version of 'Cinderella' about a Greek slave working in Ancient Egypt. We will also have focused spelling & grammar sessions.

**MATHS:** Our 1<sup>st</sup> topic is addition and subtraction where we are developing our mental calculation strategies. Then we will move on to written calculation methods. We are also placing a big emphasis on times tables this term. Ideally by now, children should know their 2, 5 and 10 times tables, and should be learning their 3, 4, and 8 times tables. Remember '**Practice makes perfect**' and children should be encouraged to practise their times tables. Children also have a set of Key Instant Recall Facts(KIRFs) to support the development of the mental skills that underpin much of the maths work in school.

**SCIENCE:** Our science topic is ' Light'. By the end of the unit, pupils should recognize that they need light in order to see things, and recognize that shadows are formed when light is blocked by a solid object.

**RE:** This term our RE sessions will focus on Hinduism and Islam. The children will also reflect on big questions relating to religion and their own lives.

*spellings and should return their homework books by Thursday at the latest to give us time to mark them. Children will bring reading books home on a weekly basis, and need to read to you at least 4 times per week, in order to improve fluency and understanding. Please sign their reading diaries, each time, to show they have read to you! Please support the children and make sure they complete the work set, on a weekly basis. I cannot stress this enough!*

**Spellings:** Word lists will contain specific spelling patterns as well as words from the National Curriculum Spelling Lists for Year 2 and Year 3/4.

**Reading for pleasure** is important so that the children understand and develop a broader vocabulary and increase their general knowledge. To do this we choose a variety of high quality texts to share. Some of the texts, we will be sharing this term, include – 'The Chronicles of Narnia, The Lion The Witch and the Wardrobe' by CS Lewis

'The Butterfly Lion' by Michael Morpurgo.

'The Little Old Toymaker' by Enid Blyton.

We will also do some whole class guided reading activities on Tilly and the Time Machine by Adrian Edmondson.

Please look on the Year 3 class page, on the school website, for the link to useful extra learning resources.