



## Curriculum Letter for Year 3 – Autumn Term 1 2023

### General Information

Welcome to Year 3, we hope that you had a lovely summer. The children are all looking smart in their uniforms and have settled in well, adapting with confidence to their new routines and timetable. Housepoints are given for effort, achievement and behaviour, we are sure that the children have already told you about the many points they have earned! The overall theme for this half term is *New Beginnings*. We hope you are looking forward to your journey into Year 3.

### Curriculum

**Maths:** In this half term, pupils will develop their **number sense** and explore calculation strategies. This includes **place value**, focusing on writing, partitioning, ordering and comparing 3-digit numbers. They will also learn to find numbers that are 10 or 100 more or less than a given number, as well as rounding to the nearest multiple of 10 and 100. Pupils will learn near-doubles and adding-on strategies to find differences. Additionally, they will explore **graphs** and learn how to understand sets of data.

**English:** This year, we will be using the 'Literacy Tree' scheme as a basis for our written work. We will be working from several quality texts which will inspire a variety of written work. This half term, our texts are '**The First Drawing**' by Mordicai Gerstein a text that explores the first cave drawings discovered and '**The Escape from Pompeii**' by Christina Balit, a the story about the volcano erupting. We will be comparing and exploring these two texts to guide our learning in English.

Our class reads are '*The First Drawing*' by Mordicai Gerstein, '*Littlenose*' by John Grant and '*The Hundred Mile-an-hour Dog*' by Jeremy Strong.

**RE:** Our first unit is on Christianity, and we will be looking at the question: **What's the Bible's Big Story?** We will be learning about how the Bible is divided into different books, how the whole Bible tells one whole story and the different themes that are found within it: God, Creation, Fall, People of God, Incarnation, Gospels, Salvation, Kingdom of God.

**Science:** Linked to our overall theme of *New Beginnings*, we are looking at **Rocks and Soils**. This unit will involve learning about how rocks are formed and change, as well as finding out about soil erosion.

**Geography:** This is our first unit named 'Coasts'. As many children have told us about trips abroad or to the coast, they have lots on first-hand experiences to build upon. We will be looking at how coasts and coastal features are formed and will be finding out about tourism by looking at the seaside town of Bournemouth. The children will learn about erosion and will be linking this to the Science unit, too.

**French:** This is a new subject for many and the children have already shown a keenness to develop their language skills. We start by finding out about France and French culture, as well as learning how to greet each other in this new language.

**Computing:** In first unit is called **We Are Programmers**, where pupils create animations in Scratch which is a programming platform. They will learn to add sound, backdrops and costumes to their animated person.

**PSHE:** Our unit is **Family and Relationships** and will be taught through class lessons and circle times. Pupils will learn to appreciate diverse family structures and recognise the importance of support within families. They will learn to embrace differences positively, as well as understanding and challenging stereotypes.



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**Design & Technology:** The first unit of the year is **Food: Eating Seasonally**. We will be exploring where the fruit and vegetables we eat come from, explain the term 'seasonal' and find out the environmental impact of growing and moving food. At the end of the unit, we will be making our own seasonal tart.

**Music:** In this subject we will be learning to sing **Let Your Spirit Fly**. We will listen to and appraise the song and improvise rhythm patterns to accompany our singing.

**PE Days:** Outdoor PE is timetabled for Wednesdays with Coach Romaine. We also have indoor PE on Fridays and will be dancing our way into Year 3 by creating, adapting and linking a range of dance actions.

### Reading and Spellings

Reading is an essential skill, and we would like to foster a love of reading both in and outside school. Please make time for your child to read with you and for your child to be read to, also. We will also be teaching spelling patterns and rules in class.

### Homework

Homework is set every Friday on Teams, to be completed by the following Wednesday. It will consist of spelling, reading and maths or topic work. We often use the MyMaths and/or Purple Mash websites for homework.

Our Knowledge Organisers are available in Teams under 'Files' so please use this to help support your child's learning in school at home too. They are a great way to start conversations about what we are doing at school each week.

### Key Dates

Father Steve visiting	27 <sup>th</sup> September
4B Leading Harvest Festival	13 <sup>th</sup> October
Half Term Break	23 <sup>rd</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> October
INSET day	30 <sup>th</sup> October