



## Curriculum Letter for Year 3 – Spring Term 1 2024

### General Information

Welcome back after the Christmas break. We hope all our families had a lovely break. Thank you for the wonderful books that were donated as part of the '12 Books of Christmas', the children are very excited to read these, and we will be sharing them as a class.

The children are looking refreshed and ready for the learning and challenges of the upcoming half term. We look forward to both classes learning to play their first tunes on the recorder this half term.

### Curriculum

**Maths:** During this half term, the children will continue to look at commutativity (when two numbers can be added or multiplied, and the same answer will be found no matter what order they are in).

We will continue to learn about the inverse operations to show how addition and subtraction are linked and how multiplication and division are linked. We will be practising multiplication and division facts for numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 10 and also multiplying and dividing a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number. Additionally, we will explore the concepts of Time, looking at both analogue and digital clocks and comparing durations of time.

**English:** This half term, we will be studying *The Pied Piper of Hamelin* by Michael Morpurgo, focusing on organising paragraphs, grammar, spelling patterns, and the language used in this writing style. We will also explore how to write engaging adverts and letters as part of our learning. Towards the end, we will create our own stories based on the text, learning how to effectively edit our own work before publishing. We will then move on to reading the classic book *A Necklace of Raindrops* by Joan Aitken.

Our class read is *Charlie Changes into a Chicken* by Sam Copeland.

**RE:** For the first half term, we will be looking at one of the world faiths, **Judaism**. We will be developing the children's knowledge of this faith, through looking at the story of Moses and thinking about why this story is important to the Jewish faith. We will be looking at the ten commandments, the ten plagues and about promises. We also hope to invite Rabbi Jacobi in to talk to the children about his faith.

**Science:** This half term, we are looking at **Light and Shadow**. We will be looking at the properties of materials and whether they reflect light. In addition, the children will be using mirrors to explore reflectional symmetry and carry out investigations into shadows, discovering more about the term transparent, translucent and opaque.

**Geography:** This is our second geography unit called **Our World: Where on earth are we?** This will include map skills, reading and interpreting them. Also looking at globes and identifying continents, oceans, countries, and time zones, looking at how the daylight and night-time hours change.

**French:** The children will be revising the vocabulary learnt so far and increasing their language skills while learning some basic vocabulary about **Fruits**. They will begin to use the vocabulary learnt in simple oral sentences, saying which fruit they like or dislike.

**PSHE:** Our unit is **Safety and the Changing Body** and will be taught through class lessons and circle times. Pupils will learn about safety when out and about the streets and safety online. The children will also think about the choices they make, how they affect themselves and those around them and the influences that affect these choices.



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**Art:** This half term, we will be improving our drawing skills. The children will start by understanding what it means to "See like an artist." After that, we will explore shading techniques, create textures and focus on botanical drawing, especially abstract flowers.

**Music:** This half term, children will continue to deepen their understanding of the language of music as they learn to play the recorder. The emphasis is on developing breathing and finger skills and understanding musical concepts, such as notation, rhythm and reading basic music.

**PE Days: Outdoor and indoor PE days remain the same, Wednesday and Fridays.** Indoor PE: Gymnastics. This will involve travelling with a change of direction and linking a series of five elements together, using apparatus. Outdoor PE with Coach Kymani playing football, continuing to develop our tactical and strategic skills.

### Reading and Spellings

Reading is still an essential skill, and we thank you for your support in hearing your children read regularly at home. We are continuing to encourage a joy of reading, discovering the magic of the stories in them and the wonder they can create in our imagination. We will also continue to teach the weekly spelling patterns and rules in class, linked to the class texts.

### 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. They also are essential to support your child's knowledge, in case of absence. Please share these with your child.

### Key Dates

Half term: Mon 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024

INSET Day: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February. SCHOOL CLOSED