



Class 3 News - January 2020

Welcome back: a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful 2020 to you all!

English and History: This half term we will be reading 'There's a Pharaoh in my Bath' by Jeremy Strong. The book lends itself to our history topic, Ancient Egypt. Our writing will be based upon character descriptions, writing as a character and using figurative language to write a curse. The focus of our grammar work will be upon the use of apostrophes, prepositions and determiners. In history, we will be examining life in Ancient Egypt. We will use our findings as the basis for a range of non-fiction styles including biographies, fact files and explanations.

Maths: We are starting the year by developing data handling skills - bar charts, pictograms, tables and line graphs. Then we will be securing knowledge of formal methods of multiplication and division. Just before half term, we will be learning how to calculate area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes.

Reminder: In June 2020, pupils in Year 4 will be expected to complete an online test, where they must answer random times table facts in less than six seconds. We aim to prepare the children the best we can, so we hope to have a one-to-one session for each child with a Teaching Assistant on a Monday afternoon where they can practise chanting and answering times table facts. A slip will be sent home to say which times table your child needs to focus on next.

Art: In preparation for next half term's geography, we will be looking at Cityscapes. This will involve drawing, painting and modelling using a variety of media.

Science: This half term children will be exploring the desert habitat and the plants and animals that live there. They will learn how to group and identify animals using classification keys. We will look at how plants/animals adapt to habitat and environment.

Geography: We will be looking at the geography of Egypt and the importance of the River Nile. Then we will focus upon cities in the UK and around the world.

RE: 'What can we learn about Christian worship and belief by looking at Churches?' Children will firstly contemplate the meaning of sacred and special places and objects to them. Then will examine the features and artefacts found in churches and the importance of them to Christians.

Spanish: The children will be learning names of parts of the body, personal pronouns and adjectives.

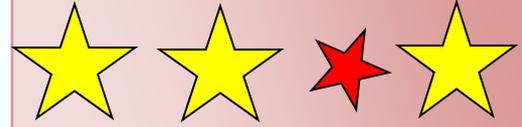
Music: We will be continuing to learn to play the recorder this year with Mrs Coulls, our music specialist from the Durham Music Service.

PE: Our swimming day remains as a Tuesday at Woodhouse Close Leisure Centre. Mrs Hargreaves and Mrs Dodd accompany the children in the water and offer support to anyone who is nervous or unsure. Your child will need a swimming costume/trunks, towel and swimming hat. Goggles are optional. Swimming hats are available to buy at the leisure centre. We have a limited supply of goggles and hats which can be borrowed if your child forgets anything.

This term PE is on a Friday and we will be working with a specialist dance teacher. Please ensure that your child has his / her PE kit on the allocated day.

On occasion, some of our lessons may be outside so your child will need navy joggers and a navy jumper/ white T shirt. Please can long hair be tied back and all jewellery removed on PE and swimming days?

Computing: We will be using ICT to research, record and present information. In addition, we will be learning about copyright. Finally over the term, we will develop programming skills with Scratch.



Homework and Spelling

Homework is set on a Tuesday and due to be handed in the following Monday. Packs won't be sent out every night, so please send the homework book back in the polythene bag, once the homework is complete.

Weekly spellings will be sent out on a Tuesday as part of your child's homework. We really appreciate your support in helping your child to learn their weekly spellings at home. Your child will be tested on a Monday then new words organised and issued on a Tuesday.

Reading

Just to remind you that reading books will be changed twice a week. They will be changed on a Monday and a Thursday after school so on these nights, your child won't have a reading book. If you have any questions about this, please get in touch. If a book is handed in late, we will try our best to change it throughout the day but can't always guarantee this can happen.

Upcoming events

- We are in the process of organising a visitor/visit to enhance our Ancient Egypt Topic. More to follow...

Thank you for reading our newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch,

Kind regards,

Mr Trueman



Please write a note in your child's school diary or contact the school office if there are any circumstances where they need to miss PE or swimming.

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Homework due in	Swimming	Opportunity to read aloud to a volunteer	Reading diaries due in (Books will be held overnight and changed after school)	PE
Reading diaries due in (Books will be held overnight and changed after school)	Opportunity to read aloud to a volunteer			Book Club
Weekly spelling test	Homework/spellings and new reading books and diaries sent home			Reading books and diaries sent home
Times Tables one-to-one session				