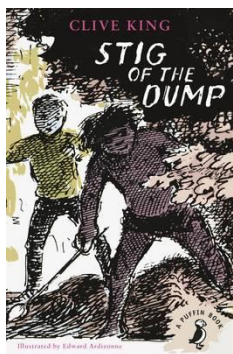


WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

Year 3/4 Autumn Term Curriculum Newsletter

Welcome to Year 3/4! We are very much looking forward to working alongside you and your children this academic year. In this newsletter, we will explain a little more about what your child will be learning this term and some of the things that you can do to help.

English



This term, we will read *Stone Age Boy* by Satoshi Kitamura, *How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth* by Michelle Robinson and our class text, *Stig of the Dump* by Clive King. From picture books to a modern classic, these texts link nicely with our Stone Age to Iron Age history topic and promise to enthuse and engage the children. As well as exploring our class text, *Stig of the Dump* during our reading sessions, these texts will serve as a stimulus for a range of writing genres and text types, including stories with a historical settings, instructional writing and non-chronological reports. Underpinning this themed and contextual reading and writing will be SPaG lessons, focusing on aspects of spelling, punctuation and grammar such as word class, sentence types and spelling rules. These essential building blocks for speaking and writing fluently will be taught regularly and revisited frequently.

Spelling - Spelling lessons take place weekly, with the launch of a new spelling rule every Monday and continued practice each day thereafter. A list of the weekly spellings will be stuck in the children's diary for extra practice at home and they will be tested the following Monday.

Handwriting - Handwriting practice will also take place regularly, with an emphasis on joining letters where appropriate, along with correct letter formation.

Independent Reading and Diaries - In Lower Key Stage 2, we encourage children to read aloud at home as much as possible and to record this in their diaries. Reading will be monitored regularly and good reading effort at home will be celebrated and rewarded. Further details of this can be found in the children's reading diaries.

Maths

During the term children will aim to develop their understanding of place value, rounding, the four operations using both mental and written methods, and units of measurement. Alongside this, children will improve their ability to use and apply this understanding in the context of problem solving and reasoning.

Times tables - By the end of Year 4 all children must know their times table facts up to 12x 12 and recall these confidently at speed. Please encourage extra practice at home. To help with this, the children have been given their logon details for Times Table Rock Stars - a fun way for them to learn their tables online.

Geography	<p>Where does our food come from?</p> <p>The children will go on a journey around the world, visiting farms in temperate, tropical, and Mediterranean climates. Children will be taught about the locational language used to describe locations around the world. They will also learn about the climate conditions in a range of different biomes, how food is produced, traded, and transported and how fair-trade organisations help farmers.</p>
History	<p>Stone Age to Iron Age</p> <p>The children will explore and question how palaeontologists and archaeologists find out what the world was like millions of years ago. They'll discover and explore developments of early man, as well as investigating what life was like in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age.</p>
Science	<p>Rocks, Soils and fossils</p> <p>The children will discover the different types of rocks and how they are formed. They will compare and group rocks based on appearance and simple properties. In addition, they will learn how fossils are formed and about the contribution of Mary Anning to the field of palaeontology. Finally, children will understand how soil is formed and then investigate the permeability of different types of soil.</p> <p>Light and Shadows</p> <p>This unit teaches the children about light, reflections and shadows. They will be involved in lots of different activities, including learning about different sources of light, investigating reflective materials and finding out how shadows change when the distance between the object and light source changes.</p>
Computing	<p>Emailing</p> <p>The children will be learning how to send and edit emails, add attachments and how to be a responsible digital citizen by thinking about the contents of what is sent.</p> <p>Programming: Scratch</p> <p>Children will become familiar with the computer-based application - 'Scratch', where they will learn to use repetition or 'loops' and build upon skills to program; an animation, a story and a game.</p>
R.E	<p>Diwali: How and why is the festival celebrated and what does it mean?</p> <p>The children will learn about the place of celebration and festivities in Hindu life, making links to their own experience of religious or family celebrations.</p>
Art	<p>Painting - Prehistoric Painting</p> <p>Children will discover how and why our ancient ancestors made art, experiment with natural materials to make homemade paints and play with scale to paint on a range of surfaces.</p>
D.T.	<p>Cooking and nutrition: Adapting a recipe</p> <p>Working in groups, children will adapt an existing biscuit recipe, whilst taking into account the cost of the ingredients and other expenses against a set budget.</p>

Music	Reading and Composing: Soundscapes and the Elements The children will learn about the elements of music, identify the instruments of the orchestra aurally and make creative decisions to create a soundscape and rhythm.				
PSHE	Being me in my World The children will explore their place in the class, school, and global community as well as devising Learning Charters. Celebrating Difference The children will be involved in lots of activities around anti-bullying and diversity work.				
PE / Games	Fitness	Swimming	Invasion games	Gymnastics: symmetry and asymmetry	Invasion Games
PE lessons take place on a Monday and Thursday and children will need to bring in their kit for these days. As a school, we are aiming to increase children's fitness by taking part in an extra 30 minutes of exercise every week. This takes place on a Wednesday, and we ask that on that day, children come into school wearing their PE kit. Swimming - Our swimming sessions at Newport pool take place on Wednesdays and whilst they are running, will replace Monday's PE lesson.					

Homework

In Year 3 and 4, as well as regular reading, spellings and times table practice, the children will also have English and Maths homework. This will be delivered through our on-line homework system 'Century' which supports and individualises your child's learning. The programme can be accessed via computer, tablet and even a mobile phone.

By the time they are set their first homework, the children will have had an introduction to the programme in class, have been given their logins and already completed a task.

<https://app.century.tech/>

Please contact us if you have any issues with access or technology.