

Curriculum Overview for Parents and Carers

Year 3

Spring Term

This term we will be learning the following things. Here are some useful hints and tips for helping at home!

English



Overview of Learning

To start the spring term, our focus will be on traditional tales. We will be writing persuasive adverts linked to The Three Little Pigs, creating alternative endings to different tales and writing eyewitness accounts. The children will also write a character profile based on a funny fairy tale spin off, Gotcha. Our class novel for the beginning of the spring term will be the wonderful Winnie the Pooh by A A Milne.

After half term, we will read The Iron Man by Ted Hughes which will inspire us to write setting descriptions to create a particular atmosphere. We will also use this classic book as a stimulus to write a fact file all about The Iron Man. Later, we will learn about different fables with the class, exploring the moral behind each one and the children will use all their English skills to write a familiar fable for a Year 2 audience.

Throughout the term, we will also be enjoying a variety of texts in our daily reading lessons which are linked to our class books & novels. We will also enjoy a range of picture books & non-fiction texts in our daily 'We Love to Read Time' sessions.

Ideas for Learning at Home

For our first topic, the children need to be familiar with some traditional tales. Revisiting some of the children's favourites from when they were younger or introducing them to ones they are less familiar with would be helpful. Our family favourites were Rumpelstiltskin and the Princess and the Pea! If you no longer have the books at home, they could watch video versions instead. If the children haven't seen the movie Christopher Robin, it links well to our class novel, Winnie the Pooh and is a lovely film to watch together.

Please make sure your child is reading at least three times each week & bringing in their completed reading record every day so that they qualify for their weekly reading worm & entry into our reading raffle!

Many of the children enjoy writing silly sentences using their weekly spellings in their homework books. Any written work in homework books which shows the children have been practising their spellings is rewarded with extra stamps. Steps to Success are awarded for achieving full marks on the weekly Spelling Bee or for improving on their previous score.

Maths



Mental Addition & Subtraction

The children will learn a range of strategies for adding and subtracting two- or three-digit numbers. This will involve prior knowledge gained in their daily Mastering Number sessions and from learning taught in Year 2.

Column Addition

The children will learn how to use the written method for two or three digit numbers. This will involve regrouping and no regrouping.

2, 4 & 8 times tables

Use counting and repeated addition, derived facts, adjacent facts, the commutative property and inverse facts to learn the 2, 4 and 8 times table and to notice patterns between the 2, 4 and 8 times tables. Learn rules of divisibility. Explore scaled multiplication and division facts.

Problem Solving

This term, the children will investigate working collaboratively and working systematically. They will also explore visual problems across topics.

Times Tables

This term, the children will be learning the 4, 8 and 3 times table multiplication and division facts in our times table lessons. We will also be recapping 2, 5 and 10 times tables throughout the term so that this knowledge is not forgotten.

Please encourage your child to practise their times tables at home as this will significantly benefit their learning in various areas of maths.

Remember that your child has a Times Tables Rock Stars account that they can access at home. Login details for TTRS can be found in your child's reading record.

The children have been working on turning their heat maps green for the 10, 2 and 5 times tables. As we learn the 4, 8 and 3 times tables in school, these facts will also be included in the questions asked in the 'garage' setting once they are secure with the 10, 2 and 5 times tables.

White Rose 1 Minute Maths is also a fantastic free app which the children enjoy using to practise times tables, number bonds and addition and subtraction facts. We have been using this app in class so your child will be familiar with how to use it.

[1-minute maths app | White Rose Education](#)

Can your child identify different types of rocks when they are out on a walk? Can they describe some of their physical properties?

Science



Forces and Magnets

The children will learn about magnetic force and investigate materials to find out which are magnetic and which are not. Through their investigations they will also come to understand that some materials are more magnetic than others and some magnets are stronger than others. They will discover what a magnetic pole is and what it can do, and will find out about a variety of uses for magnetic materials. They will practise asking relevant scientific questions and using different types of scientific enquiries to answer them, as well as gathering, recording, classifying and presenting data in different ways. They will apply their knowledge about magnets when they design and make their own magnetic maze.

Plants

The children will be able to identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants and will explore the requirements of plants for life and growth and how they vary from plant to plant. The children will investigate the way in which water is transported within plants. Finally, the children will explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal.

<p>Geography</p> 	<p>Our geography learning this term will be What is the geography of the United Kingdom? The children will learn about the regions of England and the counties and cities of the UK. Throughout their learning, they will be using maps and identifying both human & physical geographical features of the UK and exploring how land use patterns have changed over time.</p>	<p>Try using google maps at home to look at other familiar places or giving your child a map to follow on your next walk or car journey. Can they tell you which direction you are heading in or use the map symbols to tell you where the nearest church, airport or pub is?</p>
<p>Art & Design</p> 	<p><u>Painting: Landscapes</u> This term, our focus artists are: Friedensreich Hundertwasser, Vincent Van Gogh and Lucy Pittaway. The children will learn that a landscape painting is a depiction of natural scenery, for example mountains, trees, rivers and forests. They will recap knowledge of primary and secondary colours and learn that a tertiary colour is made up by mixing equal amounts of a primary colour and secondary colour together. They will learn how light and dark tones of colour in paintings are created by adding black and white to primary, secondary and tertiary colours. They will experiment using different brush techniques to create different forms and also explore the different effects of poster and watercolour paints. At the end of the unit, the children will use their experimenting and new knowledge to inspire their own landscape painting.</p>	<p>Your child could start their own sketchbook at home & use it to practise skills or record anything that inspires them.</p> <p>They could find an image of their favourite landscape and bring it in to share during our art lessons.</p> <p>Could your child research more about our focus artists and bring new facts in to share with us all?</p>
<p>Design & Technology</p> 	<p><u>Building: Pop-up Books</u> In our D&T lessons, the children will be making a pop-up book which operates using linkage mechanisms for a child of their own age. Their pop-up book will also draw on their scientific knowledge of plants. When researching and investigating, the children will learn that levers can be joined together to form linkages and that linkages are used to change direction of motion and that they have fixed and moving pivots. After this, the children will then make a prototype practising using linkages. When designing, they will learn that designing means to plan and draw what a product will look like and how it will work and that when designing we need to think about the materials we use, who will use it, its function and its aesthetic appeal. To finish the unit, the children will look at, use and evaluate what they have made before bringing it home to share!</p>	<p>Your child may explore books they have at home that use levers and sliders and look at how the mechanisms work. They could bring these in to share with the class during our D&T lessons too!</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p><u>Did Jesus heal people? Did He perform miracles or was there some other explanation?</u> The children will learn about what a miracle is and the Christian belief that Jesus' miracles demonstrated His love and power. We will discuss which miracles we would like to see happen in the world today.</p> <p><u>What is 'good' about 'Good Friday'?</u> The children will learn about the events of the last supper and why Christians celebrate Good Friday. They will learn about the sacrifice Jesus made and how the day celebrates that as well as love and hope.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to share their learning about the different miracles performed by Jesus.</p>

PE



Gymnastics

In this unit, the children will be learning to modify actions independently using different pathways, directions and shapes. They will consolidate and improve movements and gymnastic actions and relate strength and flexibility to actions. They will also use compositional ideas. In order to do this, they will learn to show full extension during a balance, to move in and out of contrasting shapes with fluency, to perform a sequence using different types of rolls, to perform powerful jumps from low apparatus, to perform in unison with a partner and also to create a group performance using contrasting actions.

Hockey

In this unit, the children will play in a hockey-type invasion game. They will improve game-based agility and manipulate objects using a stick and ball with safety and control. In order to do this, they will learn to keep close control of the ball using the flat side of the stick, to control the ball and pass it into a space, to use a defensive body position, to consistently stop a moving ball ready to pass, move or shoot, to improve agility and apply it in a game situation and to avoid out feet contacting the ball and apply basic rules to the game.

Badminton

In this unit, the children will identify and describe some rules of badminton. They will serve to begin a game and explore forehand hitting. In order to do this, they will learn how to use hard and soft hits and explore how different types of hits are needed to reach different areas of the court. They will learn to move to return the shuttle from the different areas of the court. They will also learn to rally with a partner over the net, how to serve forehand and how to play within the boundaries of the court.

Cricket

In this unit, the children will adhere to some of the basic rules of cricket. They will develop a range of skills to use in isolation and a competitive context and they will strike a bowled ball. In order to do this, they will learn to hit a stationary ball into space using the straight drive, how to bowl underarm to a batter with some consistency and how to use the correct footwork to strike a bowled ball. They will also learn how to stop a moving ball using the long barrier technique, how to throw longer distances overarm and how to perform as a wicketkeeper.

Please ensure that your child remembers to bring their water bottle every Wednesday. We will be outside in all weathers (within reason) so warm tracksuit, waterproof, hat & gloves are also needed as we head in these colder months.

Piercings must be removed or covered up before coming into school.

Why not have a look at some of the NHS's recommended ideas for keeping active at home?

[Free indoor activities for kids – Healthier Families - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/)

PSHE



How can we stay safe online when using social media? We will explore this topic by discussing these important questions: What rules should we follow? What might happen if we don't follow rules online? How can we keep things private & why is that important? How can our actions positively affect others? What might happen if privacy is broken?

How can we look after our physical & mental health? We will address this unit by considering a series of key questions: What is a balanced lifestyle? What positive choices could we make to improve our health? How can negative choices impact our health? How might our feelings make us behave? Why is it important to share our feelings?

Please reinforce these discussions with your child at home to help keep them safe.

Discuss how you look after your physical and mental health with your child. Could you do something together to improve your physical or mental health?

<p>Music</p> 	<p>This term we will be focussing on playing glockenspiels. The children will learn how to perform rhythms that are longer than 2 bars using crotchets, quavers, minims & their rests. They will perform from & compose using at least 3 pitched notes & simple rhythms. They will play back simple melodies, with & without musical accompaniment. They will also use untuned percussion/melodic instruments as well as the voice to perform 3+ note melodies & simple rhythms. The children will also enjoy a weekly singing assembly where we celebrate and explore staff's favourite pieces of music. We also learn to sing a new song and continue to build up our repertoire of fun warm-up songs, often sung in rounds.</p>	<p>Can your child teach you any of our singing assembly warm up songs?</p>
<p>Computing</p> 	<p><u>Route Planners</u> In this unit, the children will plan algorithms and write code that includes angles of turn to create routes for screen turtles, testing them using 2Go. We will experiment with using the repeat command to make shapes that have 90° and 45° angles.</p> <p><u>Touch Typing</u> This unit introduces the children to touch typing. They will learn the correct posture, finger positioning and typing techniques to develop speed and accuracy while understanding how these skills support safe and effective computer use.</p> <p><u>Spreadsheets</u> This unit introduces the children to using 2Calculate in Advanced Mode, helping them move beyond basic data entry to explore how spreadsheets can calculate and solve problems. The children will learn to use formulae and functions to organise and analyse data effectively, and by the end of the unit, they will apply their knowledge to create and use spreadsheets that model real-life scenarios and answer practical questions.</p>	<p>The children can access their Purple Mash account at home and are welcome to use the programs they have used in class to practise what they have been learning.</p> <p>Touch typing is a great skill to practise at home! The children can do this by using the '2Type' program.</p>
<p>Spanish</p> 	<p>The children will begin the term naming animals in Spanish and learning how the language identifies nouns as masculine and feminine. They will then move on to composing simple oral sentences I know how to (action verb) before moving on to joining simple sentences with conjunctions y (and) & pero (but).</p>	<p>Encourage your child to practise their Spanish at home by teaching you the words & phrases they have learnt. There are lots of Spanish games & activities on the BBC website or on apps such as Duolingo. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z4crr2p</p>
<p>Trips, Experiences & Enrichment</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number Day (Maths) • Music Workshop (Enrichment) • World Book Day (English) • Preston Park (Enrichment) 	

Within school we have 6 values: **Kindness, Respect, Resilience, Fairness, Teamwork and Ambition.**
These are interwoven through our curriculum and everyday practice.