

Class 4 Curriculum Update March 2024

March's Values: Helpfulness and co
- operation

April's Values: Humility and
excellence



Year 3 recently had the opportunity of an excellent mountain and caving experience in Wales where they visited a place called Llangattock escarpment above Crickhowell. The aim was to give the children a new experience to help build their resilience and determination but also the experience in the entrance of a cave, walking up a mountain side and hands on experience of the geography of the area and limestone formations.

The children learned plenty of history of the area regarding the previous quarries and the lime kilns that are left from the time it was a working quarry before walking a few miles on a circular route along a flat tram way to a cave. There are many different caves along the route but Year 3 entered a place called Eglwys Faen and translated to English means 'church cave'.

In two small groups the class had a chance to go in to the cave where Mrs Chapman could share her vast knowledge of the formations and geography of the cave. The children were able to see two types bats and experience complete darkness turning torches off, which was a challenge but a massive achievement for some of the children. The children supported each other throughout the experience and were so enthusiastic and wanted to ask so many questions. The weather was perfect blue skies so the children could enjoy the views all around. A great experience for the class to enjoy. Thank you to Mrs Chapman for using her vast experience in leading the expedition alongside the school staff for an unforgettable experience for the children to enjoy.



Dates for your diary and reminders

Forest School sessions are every other Tuesday, although children need old, warm functional clothing every Tuesday. These can include hats and gloves. Children should have their wellies in school at all times.

PE sessions are Wednesday and now Thursdays with the class going swimming for this whole term.. Children should come into school in their PE kits. If they have long hair they should have a hairband to tie their hair back and tape to cover their ears if they wear earrings. **Swimming finishes at the end of this term.**

This half term in Year 3 we have been learning about the history and development of animation and cartoons. We began learning about the beginnings of animation through making zoetropes, thaumatropes and our own flick books. We have also been learning about the life of Walt Disney and created biographies of his life in our writing. In addition, we have also been using technology to begin to learn the process of how animations are created through making our own stop - motion animated films.

In PE, we have been practising on improving our balances, shapes and jumps to work towards creating routines in gymnastics. In our art, we have been using collage to explore elements of Ancient Greek art by directly cutting shapes into paper that we were inspired by the artwork. We have continued to develop our collaging skills thinking about colour, shape and composition to produce a creative response to this art. Our swimming is coming to end this term. It has been great to see the progress the class has made and the resilience and determination that the children have shown in the sessions for such an important life skill. Their behaviour has been excellent throughout the sessions.



Homework is important for practising, applying and consolidating the learning skills the children develop in school. **Spelling Shed** and **TTRockstars** are the weekly homework. It is expected that the children go on every week. 2/3 games per day, Monday to Friday, is great as little and often is best. We will be practising the time tables in school regularly as well. When they practice on **TT Rockstars** it will automatically follow onto the times tables that the children do not know as well and need to practice.

Reading. The expectation for reading in Year 3 is 15-20 minutes a day to an adult. The children should have their reading record and reading book in every day. When the children are listened to in school, the adults will write in purple pen. When you listen to them at home please write in their reading record, even if it is not a school book. The children continue to work on their comprehension skills weekly, linked to reading vipers. It is their responsibility to change their book and find the right colour band. It is great to see so many children achieve their 40 and 80 reads. The children will work on their comprehension skills weekly, linked to reading vipers.



If you have any questions or concerns, please email the office and I will get in touch with you as soon as I can. Mr Freeman and the Year 3 team.