



Class 3 Curriculum Update

September 2021

Values: Inspiration and Excellence

It has been lovely getting to know your children a little better now they are in my class. We are all settling in to being in Year 3 together. I think we are going to make a good team this year. The children have shown full enthusiasm for being back and are engaging in their learning well.

Thank you for everyone's patience at the end of each day as we get to know faces of parents/carers and other family members who collect. We will continue to ask the children to not just run to you or to not keep telling us you are there to make it a smoother and calmer transition at the end of the day.

Come Fly with me - Africa.

We have been learning the different continents of the world with a bigger focus on Africa. So far, we have looked at the smallest and largest countries as well as the different animals that live there. I have been very impressed by how many facts the children are remembering. We will be moving on to learn about the Kingdom of Benin with a history focus in addition to the geography knowledge we have already been developing.

The children have enjoyed working with atlases, photographs and watching some video clips to deepen their understanding of the continent of Africa. We have written to a school in The Gambia and emailed scanned copies of our letters across. We are looking forward to a reply. We also had a lovely visit from a friend of Mrs Crowther's, who was able to tell us what living in The Gambia was like.



Homework

The children will receive weekly homework.

Maths - TT Rockstars. The expectation is to play 4 games per day. (this would take a maximum of 5 minutes!)

Reading - The children should read for a minimum of 15 minutes per day and record this so that it will count towards their 40 reads.

Spelling - Spelling Shed. The children will have the same log in as last year. Games will build on the spelling patterns taught in class. They will also continue to learn the year 1/2 common exception words or begin learning the Year 3/4 words. Please see the class page for lists of these words so you can see the expectation. Please play 4 games per day.

Task linked to theme: Occasionally, there may be a task linked to our theme.

Date for the diary:

Swimming every Monday. Please send your child with their swimming kit and a towel. Children with long hair need to wear a swimming hat and if your child would like to wear goggles we need a letter of consent.

Forest School: every Friday. Please wear the correct kit and bring a packed lunch. As it gets colder, layering up is very important so please ensure your children are dressed appropriately in old clothes.



Mrs Blaker will be doing art with the children each week and they have started by exploring African patterns and how colour can have meaning for different tribes. They have started by creating their own patterns to border a sunset scene created by tissue paper.



40 Reads Can we improve on the number of children achieving their 40, 80, 120 and beyond reads compared to when they were in Year 2? Reading time is recommended at no less than 15mins per day in Year 3.

Please take care of reading records and bring them to school daily (Friday is not necessary).

Going for Gold In the first week, the children brought home a booklet with multiplication facts in. The 'rules' were included and these are for you to check your child's recall if you wish. We have the booklets at school too and in the next few weeks will check the recall of $\times 2$, $\times 5$ and $\times 10$ tables for bronze, silver and gold before moving on to the tables we will be learning in Year 3. The use of TT Rockstars will support this and really does help with recall of these facts. It may be a challenge to start but regular use really does help to show improvement.

The children have not chosen the themes selected for this year as we delve into a new curriculum called **Dimensions: Learning means the World**. We will however be sure to engage children further by following their interests and questions as we cover the curriculum. Themes can last between 3-6 weeks so will change more often and will not necessarily start at the start of each new term.

The Year 3 team is made up of myself as their class teacher and Mrs Davies as the learning support assistant but we are also lucky enough to work with Mr Hutton, Mrs Baker, Mrs Blaker, Mrs Crowther and Mr Batstone across the week.

If you or your child have any concerns at any point please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office. It is important we address anything early on.

Mrs Lee and the Year 3 team