

ASPIRE



Year 3 Half Termly Update Spring Term 1

Dear Parents,

Firstly, a warm welcome back to all parents and carers! We also welcome Emma to the Duncombe team. Emma will take over as the class teacher for Isaac Newton. The Year 3 team are looking forward to continuing to work with such a cohort of young hard-working learners on their educational journey. We have planned a wonderful term for the children and are very excited. P.E. will continue to take place on Wednesday and Friday. Please ensure your child comes into school in their full P.E. kit. Also, please check the website regularly for any updates and key dates.

English - Writing

As we start the new year, the children will be writing a story based on *The Worst Witch* by *Jill Murphy*. This wonderful book will provide a great base for the children to write their own stories using interesting adjectives and exciting verbs. It is also a good chance to show off the grammar skills that we have learned. We will plan carefully using interesting vocabulary, consider how we can describe a character and setting as well as follow the rules for using speech using inverted commas.

English - Reading

In reading, we will be reading an excellent book this half term called *The Worst Witch* by *Jill Murphy*. We will be focusing on the children's comprehensions skills, making sure that not only can they read fluently but also that they understand what they are reading. We will think about the meaning of new vocabulary and the strategies we can use to understand unfamiliar words, as well as explain the meaning of new words. Please also ask your children questions about the books they are reading at home.

Maths

At the beginning of the year we will be revising and building important foundations for the year ahead. This half term the children will be looking at fractions, multiplication and division. The children will start by building on their prior learning about fractions. They will compare and order fractions and develop their understanding of the whole, the numerator, the denominator and equivalent fractions. We will then move on to refreshing their multiplication and division strategies and then move onto multiplying 2 digits by 1 digit. We will be using the grid method, exploring related calculations and developing understanding of scaling. We will also develop our reasoning skills.

Science

In Science, our new unit is Light. We will learn that we need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light. We will investigate how light is reflected on different surfaces and also recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by a solid object. We will set up an enquiry to find patterns in how the size of shadows changes. We will learn that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect our eyes.

Spanish

Children in Year 3 will be having weekly Spanish lessons. They will learn greetings including how to introduce ourselves and how to respond. Throughout the unit, children will learn phonics sounds to help them with unfamiliar words.

Homework

Homework is given out weekly and children must complete their spellings, Doodle Maths and one piece from their Homework grids each week. Don't forget to work on a Science project linked to the new unit Light.

History

Our History focus this half term is on the Stone Age. First, we will be creating cave paintings. Then, the children will learn about the daily life of people living in the Stone Age. They will debate whether the Stone Age man was just a simple hunter gatherer interested in food shelter, or if there was more to the day to day life of the Stone Age man. They will learn about the fascinating Stonehenge and provide theories as to why Stonehenge was made. They will delve further into the Stone Age through a study of Skara Brae. To conclude the unit, the children will also learn about the Bronze and Iron Age.

R.E.

In RE we will continue to look at what different religions believe about God and understanding the key aspects of the Christian, Muslim and Jewish faith. We will also be performing a whole class assembly celebrating Hanukkah!

P.E.

As part of their PE lessons, Year 3 will learn how to trust and work as part of a team, supporting their other team members to complete tasks. Year 3 will work on their language skills to communicate effectively with their teammates and jointly solve problems using reasoning. There will also be a focus on coordination and improve their multitasking skills. They will be using different sized balls, starting with smaller balls and then working their way up to bigger balls, developing their control and fine motor skills.