

Year 3 Autumn 1



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year and your child's first term in Year 3. I am very excited to have this fantastic class and to get started on what I'm sure will be a very successful year.

The following is an overview of the subjects and activities we will be covering this half term.

In **Literacy** we will be focusing on narrative, looking at texts with familiar settings. The children will be learning to write in a variety of different styles before planning and writing their own story. We will also be recapping how to use basic punctuation, ensuring that full stops are used correctly and consistently, before learning how to use more sophisticated forms of punctuation such as inverted commas to show direct speech.

As always, **Reading** is a huge support to the aspects of literacy we will be studying this half term. Therefore it is important that the children are encouraged to read at home and that an adult hears them read every day, or as much as possible. The children will be bringing home reading books throughout the term and we will be doing weekly reading record checks to ensure that children are reading aloud to an adult. Please try to read with your child each week, encouraging them to sound out the words and discussing with them what the text is about. It is expected they will have three entries per week accompanied by a parent signature.

In **Maths** we will be focusing on place value. Children will look at different representations of number in order to identify the place value of each digit in a three digit number. They will apply this in order to compare and order numbers up to 1000. The children will also focus on finding 10 more and less as well of 100 more and less. Children will develop their mathematical reasoning and become more articulate in explaining their thinking. The children will also need to become fluent in recalling and using multiplication facts for the 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

Our topic for **Science** this term is animals, including humans. Children will be introduced to the main body parts associated with the skeleton and muscles, finding out how different parts of the body have special functions. They work scientifically by identifying and grouping animals with and without skeletons, comparing their movement and exploring ideas about what would happen if humans did not have skeletons. They also learn what makes a healthy and balanced diet.

In **Computing** we will be learning how to be programmers. We will be using the program Scratch to help us create animations around our topic books Dave's Cave and Dave's Rock. The children will learn how to create an algorithm for an animated scene in the form of a storyboard. They will also learn how to debug and correct mistakes in their coding.

In **History** we will be learning about the Stone Age. We will be looking at artefacts and discussing what these tell us about this ancient era. Children will look at the different types of settlement and begin to develop their chronological awareness. The children will investigate Stone Age settlements such as Skara Brae and try to decide once and for all why Stonehenge was built.

In **PE** we will focus on how to use basic principles of attack and defence to plan strategy and tactics for basketball. They work on improving the quality of skills such as dribbling, passing and shooting using various techniques. They work and communicate effectively in small teams to attack and defend.

