



Curriculum Newsletter Year 3



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to you all. The children are becoming a really good team, are very settled and are working hard at Bushfield. We have some exciting learning to do this term and both the staff and children are already enthused about our new topic 'The Active Planet'.

Year 3 Support Staff



Mrs Cassin



Mrs Haith



Mrs Bell



Miss Brentnall

Subject overviews

English

In the first part of term, the children will be continuing to learn about the different types of poetry focusing mainly on acrostic and calligram poems. They will also be writing instructions and learning to use imperative verbs and time conjunctions accurately. They will be looking at a range of punctuation, the different word classes and extending their knowledge of sentences and the different sentence types.

During the 2nd half term we will be focusing on the topic of an Active Planet and using this as a basis for our English work. The children will be writing non-chronological reports about natural disasters such as tsunamis, earthquakes and volcano eruptions as well as writing letters and diary entries in the first person using their empathy skills.

Maths

There will be a big focus this term on developing the children's written methods with a focus on multiplication and division. We will continue to look at word problems ensuring the children have the confidence to apply their new skills to a range of question types and situations.

After half term, we will revisit 2D shape with an emphasis on symmetry and will also look at 3D shape. For the first time, we be looking at fractions and in order to support this we would appreciate it if you could help the children practise their times tables at home.

Computing

The children will be developing their programming and coding skills this term. We will be using Lego Wedo to support us with our programming ability and a variety of apps to make coding appealing and accessible for Year 3.

PE / GAMES

During the indoor PE sessions on Tuesday mornings the children will be doing dance and gym. They will learn the Bushfield Warm Up dance and maybe get the opportunity to do some ballroom dancing. During the outdoor PE lessons, the children will be taking part in Netball and OAA (Outdoor Adventurous Activities) which will include team building activities.

In games the children will be learning the skills of Basketball and Tag Rugby. All games sessions will be outside, so please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing to keep them warm. Be aware that they may get muddy, so it is essential they have a change of shoes, and useful if they have a change of socks too.

Be the best you can be.

Be a
skilful
learner

COLLABORATE • CREATE • IMAGINE • APPLY • COMMUNICATE • REFLECT • ENJOY • ADAPT • ENGAGE • ENQUIRE • PERSEVERE • ACHIEVE

Homework

Spellings

The children will still receive new spellings on a Wednesday which will be stuck in their Personal Organisers. They will be tested the following Wednesday.

Reading

We ask that children are listened to while they read for about 10 minutes a day. They have an appropriate reading book given to them by the school but they could also choose to read a book from home or the library. Please support them by recording their reading in their organisers. Children who read at least 5 times per week are awarded merits.

Maths

The children are set homework using Times Tables Rock Stars which they have access to both in school and at home on any device with internet access. They may also be set written homework which will go home on a Friday.

Homework Project

Later in the term, children will be set a creative research task. This will be based on our Active Planet topic. Further details to follow...

Subject overviews

Science

Linked to our topic of the Active Planet, this term we will be investigating the properties of different types of rock and finding out how rocks are formed. We will also be looking at the life cycle of plants and what they need in order to grow. This will link with our DT project 'Farm to Fork'.

Topic (Geography and History)

In Geography we will be looking at how the Active Planet causes natural disasters that affect the lives of people all around the world. We will be locating volcanoes on world maps and Google Earth and will learn about the tectonic plates that move to cause earthquakes. We will touch on History later in the term when we will be discussing the events that took place in Pompeii in 79AD. This will become a stimulus for our writing in English.

Art

In Art we will be focusing on the colour wheel, identifying hot & cold colours, investigating complementary colours and experimenting with techniques to represent volcanoes. We will be using the work of Kandinsky and Jackson Pollack as inspiration.

Design Technology (DT)

The children will be making frames for the raised beds and planting seeds in order to grow our own produce. We will also hopefully be visiting the local allotments to see how other people are growing their own. Later on in the year we will harvest our produce and use them to make pizza.

PSHE

The children will learn about different types of family and the relationships within them. They will also learn about how to budget and manage money.

RE

Our RE focus this term will be Christianity under the themes of Believing, Belonging and Behaving. At the end of the term, we will take the opportunity to revisit the Easter story and its significance.

French

In the first half term we will be linking our French lessons to the Year 3 Art topic and we will be learning some action songs about parts of the body. In the second half term we will be learning to describe our town. All children have access to the website www.linguafun.eu if they wish to top up on their skills at home.

Music

This term the children will have the opportunity to learn how to play various samba instruments (Surdo, Ganza, Agogo bell and Tamourim). They will develop their samba skills by playing rhythmic phrases and developing tempo in the overall pulse.

Dates for your diary

14th & 15th February—Beauty and the Beast production
(tickets will be available in due course)
18th & 19th March—Parents' Evening