



Year 3 Spring 1 Newsletter



Coming up in Spring 1

Light it up!



We will answer the question:
What would happen if there was no light?

During the first half term, in science, we will learn about how light helps us to see, different types of light sources and how shadows are formed. There will be lots of opportunities for practical and exciting experiments! In our art learning, we will be looking at different ways to create shadows through charcoal, chalk and using different pencils to develop hatching and cross hatching techniques.

Under the Canopy!

Towards the end of the first Spring term, we will be exploring the different biomes and climates of the world, focusing on the amazing plants and animals that live in the Amazon rainforest. At the same time, the children will be investigating how plants grow and learning from their own first hand experiences. Through our art learning, we will be researching the French artist, Henri Rousseau and his wildlife landscapes. We will be taking inspiration from his works to create our own painting creations.



We will answer the question:
Do rainforests matter?

Thank you for your continued support Year 3 Team

Our English learning will focus on myths and legends from the British Isles and Scandinavia. The children will learn about writing dialogue and how to lay it out correctly in their own writing. Then our learning will be themed around books by the author Dick King-Smith. We will learn about the challenges the main animal characters face and how they overcome them. The children will use these books to publish their own animal stories, set in the rainforest.

Our Mathematics learning will continue to develop informal multiplication and division strategies using a number line and a grid. We will also learn how to add and subtract numbers with up to 3 digits. Later on in the half term, we will learn about how to collect and record data and then how to represent the data in the most appropriate way (table, bar chart, pictogram).

Our Personal and Development Learning (SCARF) unit is:



Being my best and Valuing Difference

The Key learning points are:

Healthy diets and poor diets

Courtesy and manners and respecting others, even when they are different from yourself

Relationships online and knowing that sometimes people behave differently online

Secure, stable and healthy family life, and the importance of spending time together

That families may look different to their own family life

Stereotypes and how these can be unfair, negative or destructive.

The benefits of physical exercise and time outdoors on mental well-being and happiness.

How you can support your child's learning at home



Supporting your child to complete their Home Learning each week is one of the best ways that you can help from home. Please support your child to complete each week's Home Learning to help them remember number facts and spelling rules.

We always recommend reading every day to encourage a love of reading. Your child could read aloud to an adult which provides an excellent opportunity to discuss the text and to encourage them to pause according to the punctuation (i.e. for commas and end stops). This will aid their understanding of the text. It would be great if you also discussed any interesting or unfamiliar words.

You could help your child with maths by helping them to practise multiplication and division facts for the 3 and 4 times tables. Also, practise using the addition and subtraction number pairs for numbers to 20 (e.g. Question like $15 - 7 = 8$; $150 - 70 = 80$, $9 + 4 = 13$; $90 + 40 = 130$).

If your child has any new year resolutions or has identified things they would like to achieve over the coming year - they could write them down and then check at the end of the year to see how they did.

Year 3 Messages

Please be aware that **our indoor PE has changed to Monday** and the children will be doing a gymnastics PE unit. They will need to wear their PE kits into school every Monday. Thank you

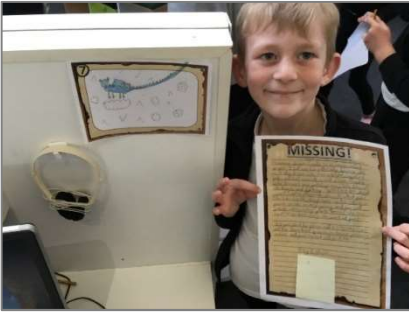
Dates for your Year 3 diary – none at the moment

Find out about the wonderful learning we did in Autumn 2 on the next page...

Our Learning in Autumn 2

Missing Dragons

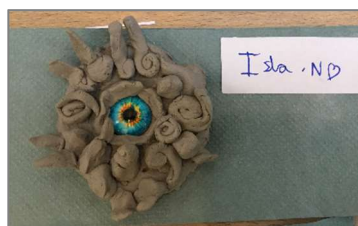
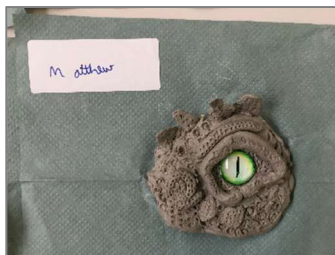
We started the second half term by reading illustrated books and poems about dragons. We had great fun choosing our favourite poem and performing it to the rest of the class! The dragon designs the children came up with were amazingly creative- and they wrote some great descriptions of them by applying what they had learned about expanded noun phrases and similes! We then used these to go on an exciting dragon hunt around our school. We were very successful in finding them.



In D.T. we learned how pneumatic systems work and put this new learning to good use when designing and making our moving monster toys. We demonstrated great teamwork and overcame the different challenges we faced during the making process.



In our Art learning this half term, we have taken inspiration from learning about dragons to sculpt our own clay dragon eyes. We looked at existing sculptures of dragon eyes and explained what we liked about them and this inspired our own creations.



In R.E, we explored our understanding of angels and came up with a class definition based on what we had learned. We then explored the important jobs the angels had in the Christmas Story.