

Year 3 - Autumn 2
Winter Wonderland



Science We will continue with our 'Animals and Humans' unit. The focus is now on humans, looking at the skeleton and muscles.

Geography We will be focusing our work on Europe. We continue developing our place knowledge and understanding of key physical and human characteristics by researching different areas of France.

Music The school scheme 'Charanga' covers elements of pulse, pitch, rhythm and performance, using voices and pitched instruments. Our focus is 'Performing Together'.

French We will be looking at language and conversational skills to do with weather.

ICT We will be creating our own stop motion animations using the iPads.

PSHE The SCARF units for this half term are all about 'Valuing difference', celebrating our friends, family and neighbours and what makes us special.

RE We will be learning about Hinduism with a focus on Gods and Goddesses.

Design Technology This will be based on sewing and joining techniques. We will be designing and making our own Christmas decorations!

PE - This half term will be netball (outdoor) and gymnastics (indoor).

Writing:
Our topic this half term is Winter Wonderland. We will be focusing on instructional writing. The children will be using their prior knowledge of instructions and all the key features to plan and write their own set of instructions. We will also be looking at different types of poetry, using language in creative and imaginative ways to describe snowflakes and winter scenes. The children will also be encouraged to proof read their own work to check for basic spelling and punctuation errors, this is to develop independence and ensure the children take pride in the piece of work they are producing.

Maths:
This half term we will be looking at:

- Addition and subtraction including developing and using a range of mental calculation strategies and formal written methods – column method.
- Length and perimeter including measuring, drawing and comparing lengths, as well as adding and subtracting lengths and calculating perimeter.

Reading:
To tie in with our topic, we will be reading 'Ice Palace' by Robert Swindells as a class. Our reading focus this half term will be checking that the text read makes sense to them and discussing their understanding of the words. The children will be encouraged to read aloud in class as we share the story together.

Homework
Alternating English and maths homework will be set on a Tuesday to be handed in the following Monday.

Reading
Children will be given the opportunity to change their reading book everyday as needed.
The expectation is that children will read at home **4 times** a week. Any additional reading will earn a Ship Token. Reading is to be recorded in the reading record.
We will be continuing our fluency reading approach this half term.

Times Tables
Year 3 focus times tables are 3x, 4x, 8x, 11x. The expectation is to practise these at least four times a week and to record this into your child's reading record. Five times or more will be rewarded with a Ship Token.

Spelling
The children will practise the Year 3 spelling rules and common exception words during a phonetic spelling session every day.

Important Dates

3rd November – Topic Launch Day (not dress up).

30th November – Year 3 music trip to Charter Hall. (More information to follow).

17th December - Christmas at St Peter and St Paul's Church.

Please see the weekly newsletter for additional whole school key dates.



Things to remember

PLEASE NAME EVERYTHING!

These should be in school **every** day:

- **Named** water bottle.
- Healthy snack.
- Reading book and record.
- Homework book.
- PE kit for **indoor and outdoor** lessons.
- Coat and bag.

PE

Children to have their winter P.E kit, including joggers and jumper, in school Monday to Friday every week. Taking it home on a Friday for washing.

Reminder – long hair must be up and **all** jewellery removed **before** the school day.

How can you help?

- Talk with your child, making a conscious effort to expand their vocabulary and descriptive ability and encourage independent learning about our theme.
- Use real life situations to practise maths, for example counting piles of coins.
- Encourage your **child** to prepare for school each day – perhaps use a checklist to ensure that they have packed everything they need in their bag. Also remind them to hand in any notes, letters or messages in their reading record.
- Encourage your child come into the classroom **independently.**
- Remind your child that they are expected to take responsibility for changing their reading book. We will give them regular opportunities to change their book within the week.

Please remember to email your class teacher if you have any concerns or queries and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Children have access to Times Tables Rock Stars through their school login details.