



# Spring Term – Curriculum Newsletter

## Year 3

### English

#### Speaking and Listening

There are many opportunities in the Year 3 curriculum to develop speaking and listening skills. During this term, the children will be particularly focusing on developing their skills of reasoning and justifying their opinions and gaining, maintaining and monitoring the interest of listeners.

#### Reading

During the Spring Term, the children will be focusing on two main texts: Charlotte's Web and The Iron Man. They will continue to secure their decoding skills to allow them to concentrate on further developing their comprehension skills. They will be practising retrieving and recording information, making inferences, justifying predictions and identifying and summarising main ideas from texts - developing into young confident readers.

#### Writing

This term the children will develop their skills of creating narratives based on stories from other cultures, writing newspapers about fictional events, creating diary entries about real events or experience, writing different forms of poetry, report writing and writing their own adventure stories. Using these genres of writing, the children will also learn to correctly spell common homophones, increase the quality of their handwriting, organise writing into paragraphs, use literary devices to improve the quality of their writing, proof-read for spelling & punctuation errors and begin to develop the redrafting process, independently.

### Maths

This term, the children will be improving their maths mastery skills in addition and subtraction, building on the work done in the Autumn Term to develop mental strategies and use more abstract written methods, such as column method. Then, the children will be focusing on the Year 3 times tables, the 3s, 4s and 8s.

Our topic for the Spring Term is **Different places, similar lives**. During this topic we will be focusing on the following subjects: **Geography, History, Art and DT**. We will be learning about the following things: The learning journey for this topic will begin with the children creating a class video about our school, this video will be sent to an international primary school in Qatar. The year 3 children will be introducing themselves, talking about their daily routine and what they do in lessons.

During the next part of the learning journey, the children will focus on *Geography*. They will closely examine our local area (Selly Oak in Birmingham) and will participate in a local walk to conduct fieldwork. The children will analyse the data collected to establish what land is used for and how it has developed over time. The children will examine ordinance survey maps and then use this knowledge to develop their own maps of the local area. They will also develop their understanding of the human and physical features and following these comparisons will be made to other international locations including Qatar and others.

Next, the children will be looking at history. The children will be looking at what children did in around 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> century compared to themselves in the present day. This links in with the work that Weoley Castle Ruins will be doing with us again. With how much children use to work, this linked in nicely to look at our significant individual, Ludwik Rajchman, who was one of the finders of UNICEF for children.

After in their learning journey, they will be looking at art with Weoley Castle Ruins (through the Birmingham Museum Trust). This is where the children will be making ceramic tiles related to the time which we have looked at in history.

The last part of our learning, we will be looking at design technology. With the different places part of the topic theme, the children will be planning, designing and then making their own wooden bridges with pulleys as a draw bridge. This links in with new bridge they are planning to build in Qatar.

**In this topic we will be using the following vocabulary, if possible please talk about these words at home to ensure your child has good understanding of their meaning:**

**Geography** - Observe, measure, record, human and physical features, map, atlas, country, location, environment.

**History** - Significant, period, influence, change, source, positive/negative impact, similar, different, national.

**DT** - Design features, gears, pulleys, levers, structures, dowels, templates.

**Music** - Pitch, timbre, dynamics, volume, tempo, rhythmic patterns, vocalisation.

## Science

Our topics for the Spring Term is Forces and Magnets. The children will learn about different types of forces, how forces are all around us, the concept of gravity and magnetism, and how magnets work. They will also continue to develop their skills of recording, classifying and presenting data.

## Music

The children will be singing and performing with a variety of instruments to two different songs. These songs are: Three Little Birds and the Dragon Song. The children will understand words such as tempo, pitch, timbre and pulse.

## PSHE/Peacemakers

In PSHE, the children will describe how family can mean different things to different people, describe situations that they find stressful and explain some ways that can make these better through positive thinking and talking them through with others. They will continue to present views and opinions with some explanations, beginning to formulate questions, whilst working collaboratively towards shared goals.

## PE

During the Spring Term, children will participate in gymnastics and cricket. In gymnastics, the children will develop their ability to balance, roll and climb. They will also combine movements, actions and balances, either individually or as part of a group, to create a fluid routine. In cricket, the children will develop their throwing, catching and batting technique. A cricket coach from Warwickshire County Cricket Club will be in supporting our lessons. Important information: PE will be on a **Thursday**. Therefore, Children will need to come to school in their PE kits on a **Thursday**. Children's PE kits should consist of: a white t-shirt, navy blue/black joggers/shorts, black trainers/pumps, school jumper/cardigan. Please ensure that children come to school wearing the correct clothing and that all jewellery is removed where possible.

## RE

In RE, the children will explain the concept of fairness in relation to a religious story, discussing the meaning of prejudice and discrimination, and living with integrity. They will be able to explain what it means for God to be all-knowing in different religions, as well as retelling the story of Passover and Easter.

## French

In French, the children will continue to develop their understanding of French words and phrases through their topics, 'The Body' and 'Colours and Numbers'

The children will be expected to apply their learning by listening attentively and respond to simple rhymes, stories and songs.

## Homework

Children will receive their homework grid for their new topic. Children can choose the activities that they would like to complete. Children can return their homework on a day of their choosing so that Mr Jones or Mr Ball can see some of the fantastic work they have been completing outside of school. We were very impressed with the homework that was brought into school in the Autumn Term.

Remember to use both Times Table Rock Stars and Numbots.

If you are having difficulty with accessing the online platforms, please your teacher know by emailing the Year 3 email account at: [Year3@paganelschool.net](mailto:Year3@paganelschool.net) and they will resolve the issue.

## Key Dates

Monday 30th January, 9.30-11.30am- Wild Escape Workshop, on site at Weoley Castle Ruins  
3A. 1.00-3.00 pm – Ceramics Workshop at school.  
Monday 6th February, 9.30-11.30am - Wild Escape Workshop, on site at Weoley Castle Ruins  
3B 1.00-3.00 pm – Ceramics Workshop at school.  
Thursday 20th April 12.45-2.30pm- Wild Escape Celebration Event Weoley Castle, Year 3 (both classes).