

# Curriculum Newsletter

## Autumn Term ~ Class 3 (Y3/4)

So that you feel clear about the teaching and learning intentions for the Autumn Term 2023, please enjoy reading this overview, we hope that you find it helpful...

The focus will be a Geography & Science knowledge based project based on Extreme Weather and Survival. The children will learn how to use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate areas of extreme heat and cold, to explain why some areas are very cold and some very hot and how to describe and understand what life is like in those places for people, animals and vegetation.

In the course of this learning, the children will use a range of geographical skills to help them investigate extreme places and environments and consider how animals and communities adapt to these environments. They will select and use appropriate skills and ways of presenting information to help them investigate places and environments. They will know how to describe physical and human characteristics of places by referring to regions, countries and continents and consider how similarities and differences in environments affect the lives of people who live there. This will provide the children with high quality material for developing skills in English and Maths, Artistic skills, Personal and Social Education and will link strongly with other subjects across the curriculum to create an overarching 'project' theme.

English work will include descriptive, narrative and instructional writing, but will also include work on poetry and letter writing. All the texts we share will support the learning of subject vocabulary and help put the children 'in the context' of our class project. We will read a story text together which will connect with the project and support vocabulary and understanding and reading for pleasure.

Maths will involve number including place value, addition and subtraction methods. They will also be introduced to rounding and counting back beyond zero into negative numbers. They will develop effective and efficient written methods for addition and subtraction calculations to help solve word problems. There will be a strong focus on learning multiplication tables, especially for the Year 4 children. I hope that you will use TTRockstars and Prodigy, which will be tailored to back up what is happening in class.

Other curriculum areas:

- Science: focus on the strands related to States of Matter and Living Things in their Habitats.
- Art: knowledge through the study of colour and texture related to deserts & polar regions.
- RE: knowledge will involve the faiths of Hinduism and Islam, their sense of community
- PHSE/RSE: will follow the Jigsaw programme - Being Me in My World and Celebrating Difference.
- Music: knowledge will involve pulse, metre and timbre.
- French: vocabulary knowledge developed for body parts, actions, colours and clothing.
- Computing: knowledge will relate to an understanding coding in LOGO and Scratch.
- PE: our Premier Coach children will be developing ball skills, control, coordination and teamwork through football. They will also be working on development control, movement, and balance in gymnastics.

Best wishes, Mr. M Watson, Mr Hartnell and Mrs Edwards

### Update:

Thank you for continuing to engage with Class Dojo to keep up to date with what is happening in school. Please check the 'Class Story' and 'School Story' updates which give a window into the classroom. Please remember that ClassDojo is not the best way to make contact, this is best in person or via the school office.

Your child will bring home a new Reading Diary, inside is their Prodigy, TTRockstars and ReadTheory login – please use this resource as often as possible as it is proven to have a positive impact on children's achievement.

This year, Miss Edwards will be working in Class 3 as a Trainee Teacher.

### Messages:

P.E will take place on **Wednesday**. Please ensure that your child comes to school on that day in labelled school PE kit on this day.

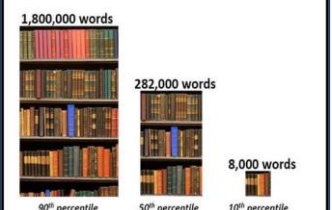
For PE, earrings must be removed or covered with a plaster or micropore tape and long hair must be tied back securely.

Please listen to your child read 3-4 times a week for 10mins, it makes a huge difference to their learning. The child who reads at home – will always achieve more!

If you have questions about how you can support your child/ren's knowledge development – please feel free to ask.

### Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A"	Student "B"	Student "C"
reads 20 minutes each day	reads 5 minutes each day	reads 1 minute each day
3600 minutes in a school year	900 minutes in a school year	180 minutes in a school year



By the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?  
(Nagy & Herman, 1987)