



Jessie Younghusband School

Year 3 – Curriculum Letter – Spring Term

Welcome back – I hope you all feel rested and refreshed after the Christmas break. We have a busy term ahead with lots of exciting events and activities going on.

This term's topics

Our two Topics for this term are “Victorian Britain” and “Cuba & The Pirates of The Caribbean”.

The children have already shown their fascination and interest in the Victorian topic, having been shocked to find out that children their age would have likely been working a job in the 1800s, and caned by their teacher if they were lucky enough to attend school! As part of our topic, we have arranged for the children to have a trip to the nearby Weald & Downland Living Museum to help them experience and understand what life was like for children in the country 150 years ago.

As part of our Cuba & The Pirates of The Caribbean topic, we will be hosting a pirate dress-up day on Wednesday 27th February – I would greatly appreciate your help in organising a costume for your child on this day. These will be worn again for our class assembly, which will take place on Wednesday 20th March at 9am.

P.E.

P.E. lessons will be on Wednesday afternoons and Friday mornings for the first half term. Our Wednesday sessions will be football and our Friday session will be dance, led by Rachel Boarer. For the second half term, PE lessons will be hockey on a Wednesday afternoon and gymnastics on a Thursday morning. It is, however, useful to have P.E. kit in school all week from Monday morning, as the children may need them for clubs and occasionally for ad-hoc sporting activities at different points during the week. Please continue to ensure kits are taken home over the weekend to be washed.

Music

We are fortunate to be joined on Tuesday mornings for this term by Will Wilkins, who will be teaching the class to play the baritone horn. The pupils have each been loaned an instrument, which is stored in school, to play throughout the term. We will be hosting an open session on the final week, where you are welcome to join us to hear how the class have got on. It will be from around 11:00 to 11:45 on Tuesday 19th March – exact details will be sent to you nearer the time.

Reading

Regular reading is essential, daily if possible. This could include school reading books (fiction and non-fiction), magazines, comics or anything else which takes their interest. In fact, the wider the range of genres that your child reads the better. We will begin to think this year about how to tailor writing for different audiences, purposes and genres, so reading a range of texts will help them really understand how writing differs depending on the context. Reading comment books will continue to be used to record reading progress – we really appreciate your continued effort here. Please encourage your child to put their reading comments book and reading book back in their book bags each night so that they are available during the school day.

Home learning

A home learning task will be set once each week, typically in either Literacy or Maths but occasionally in other subjects as well. Home learning aims to reinforce a key concept the children have learnt at school. This will usually be set each Tuesday and due in again the following Monday. Additional copies of the homework, if required, are left in folders in the classroom. Occasionally you may wish to add a comment on to your child's homework if there is anything you feel I should know about how they got on. Spellings also form part of their home learning and will also be given out and tested every Tuesday. We really appreciate your continued support in helping your child to complete their home learning on time.

Year 3 Diary Dates

Tuesday 15th January – Chichester Festival Theatre concert (PM)

Monday 4th February – Victorian trip – Weald & Downland Museum

Friday 15th February – INSET day

Monday 18th – Friday 22nd February – Half term

Wednesday 27th February – Pirate Day

Tuesday 19th March – Baritone open session (11am)

Wednesday 20th March – Y3 class assembly (9am)

I know that this is going to be another exciting term, and Mrs McGurk and I have already really enjoyed starting our learning with the children for 2019. If you have any concerns or questions, please come in and see me at the end of the school day, or telephone the office to make an appointment if it is more convenient.

Best wishes,

Mr. Vass

Y3 class teacher