



Jessie Younghusband School

Year 3 – Spring Term ~ Curriculum Letter

Welcome to our curriculum letter within which we hope you will find useful information about the Spring Term in Year 3.

Reminders:

- Please can P.E. kit be in school all week from Monday morning; we will be playing a range of invasion games on Monday afternoon and have gymnastics on a Thursday morning. Children will not need football boots this term, but tracksuit bottoms would be useful during the cold weather. The P.E. kit will then be sent home each Friday to be cleaned.
- The children may like to have an art apron – or old shirt – in school all week, as some of our art and design technology may get a little messy! There are always class aprons for use.
- As before, home learning will continue to be set on a Friday and, is usually, due to be returned by the following Tuesday or Wednesday. It is important to develop a routine to ensure that home learning is done. Home learning tasks, and weekly spellings, will also be posted on the school VLE.
- Every Friday the children will bring home spellings. The children will still be encouraged to learn them through the 'Look, Cover, Write, Check' method. For some, they still need to use the handwriting lines in the books to support their joined writing. Spellings will be tested on a Thursday morning.
- Last term the children learnt their 2x, 4x, and 3x tables. This term we will revisit the 5x and 10x from Year 2, but also learn the 8x table.
- Regular reading is essential; daily if possible. This could include reading books, newspapers, joke books, magazines, comics, recipe books or non-fiction books. The children are encouraged to write their books on their book marks as a record of their reading.



Last term (The Autumn Term):

The Autumn Term was very busy for everyone in Year 3 as we settled into our new class in Key Stage 2 and unwrapped our clay dragons! The topic was called Spires, Secrets and Dragons and we learnt about our home city - Chichester. There were many highlights for us which included:

- Our Dragon transition project which involved art, maths and creative writing;
- We enjoyed writing and performing our play scripts with our shadow puppets, which we learnt about in science;
- Reading a wide range of stories, including the Paradise Garden by Colin Thompson and the Iron Man by Ted Hughes;
- Our walk around Chichester with Mr Ullson, learning to be detectives, and looking for clues that tell us about the past;
- Our Class assembly, with the 'Dragon' dance, was very enjoyable as well as the street dance we learnt with Rachael Boarer.
- The children were also very proud of their picture frames that they designed and made as presents for Christmas. They did a very good job!



Thank you all for your support last term with home learning, spellings, tables and reading as well as local walks.

This weekend you will be receiving your child's Autumn Term Topic Book which is full of the learning from last term. We ask that you spend some time over the weekend looking at it with your child and enjoy and reflect upon the work. We also hope that you will have time to record some comments on the Topic Evaluation Sheet that is inside the book. As you will see your child has shared their favourite activities, or pieces of work, and it gives you the opportunity to feedback your own thoughts about your child's achievements. We ask that you do return the Topic Book by Monday 22nd January so that we can view your feedback and keep the book as evidence of work completed during the Autumn Term. In due course these books will be sent home again for you and your child to keep. The children in year 3 are encouraged to mount and stick their own work into their topic books. They also have time to add illustrations and colour to make their books eye-catching.

This term (The Spring Term):

This term looks set to be another exciting one. We will be learning about life in Cuba and looking at the link with that country and the pirates that sailed the Caribbean, opening the way for us to create some truly inspired writing!

- Our main topic for the term is "Cuba" which has a geography focus but will also link to literacy, maths, history, art, computing and D&T.
- We have already enjoyed our flight to Cuba, packing our suitcase with clothes that we needed, and making our passport and boarding pass.
- Later on in the term, we are planning to have a "Pirate Day" to enable the children to learn more about pirates.

Ideas for supporting your child's learning:

- Continue to help your child chant and say their times tables. Many children are now confident with 2, 4 and 3x tables. We will be revisiting our 5x and 10x tables and then moving on to our 8x table;
- Continue to encourage your child to practise their column method for addition and subtraction building confidence in exchanging ones and tens where necessary;
- Continue to help your child learn the spelling rule taught each week. Encourage them to copy the list using joined handwriting throughout the week. Also, look out for the spelling pattern when they are reading so that they become familiar with the rule and find and then share other words during the spelling lesson;
- There are many useful websites including <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/cuba> and <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cuba> .

Finally, do you know anyone who...

- has been to Cuba and can share their experiences with us?
- has photos or any other resources from Cuba that we can share with the children?

I would like to finish with a thank you from myself, and Mrs McGurk, for the generous Christmas presents sent in. I had great fun spoiling myself with vouchers, and indulging in chocolates and lovely drink. Thank you again.

Best wishes,

Mrs Saunders