



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year!

We hope you had a lovely break and a chance to relax and recharge. This term we welcome a new teacher, Miss Sweetman, who will be teaching 3S. As you know, Mrs Bavin welcomed baby Imogen into the world just before we broke up, and Ms Gurr will be going on maternity leave at half term. Ms Gurr has been working closely with Miss Sweetman to ensure a smooth handover, and is also planning with once a week and taking the class for Miss Sweetman's PPA time.

This newsletter will give you a brief outline of what will be covered in each area of the curriculum this half term.

English

Our work in English this term will be based on story of 'The Wild Robot' by Peter Brown. This book gives us lots of opportunities for descriptive writing, as well as non-fiction genres, such as non-chronological reports. We will be making various links with our Science Unit which is Forces and Magnets. In DT we will create 3D animal sculptures of animals that Roz the robot, interacts with on the island.

Spelling, punctuation, and grammar will be taught every day, with a different spelling pattern taught each week. New spelling words will be placed in the homework folders this week and have been uploaded to Google Classroom. Every Thursday there will be a spelling test. This term we will continue to work on apostrophes, include inverted commas for direct speech. We will learn how we can use conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to improve our writing. We will strive to include fronted adverbials and subordinate conjunctions to uplevel our written work. Fronted adverbial: A fronted adverbial is an adverb or an adverbial phrase that comes at the front of a sentence (it comes before the verb or action it is describing). It is always separated from the main clause with a comma. For example: **Inside the sunken ship, a shoal of fish swam.**

A subordinate clause is a clause that can't stand alone as a complete sentence. It's linked to a main clause using a subordinating conjunction. It doesn't express a complete thought and requires additional information if read on its own. For example: **If you win the award (you=subject; win=verb) Since the sun will shine today (the sun=subject; will shine=verb):**

Maths

As a school, we follow the 'New White Rose' maths scheme and offer extra support and challenges to the children as needed. This term we will be initially focusing on multiplication and division, followed by some work on measurements (length and perimeter) , and fractions. You can support your children at home by:

- Helping them to learn their times tables (they are expected to know 2s, 5s, 10s, 3s, 4s and 8s by the end of Year 3 and recall these facts instantly in any order)
- Encouraging your children to log in to Doodle Maths daily.
- Using a ruler or a tape measure to measure things around the house – making sure they know how to line it up at zero and check whether they are reading in cm or mm is a great start!

Foundation subjects

Our focus will be The Iron Age, building on the work we did on the Stone Age and Bronze Age before Christmas. We will be discovering where the Iron Age Celts lived, what their lives were like and making comparisons with other periods of history. Our Art will also explore beautiful Celtic patterns. In Science we will be learning about forces and magnets, finding out about how forces such as friction and gravity work and exploring magnetic materials. In PSHE we will be thinking about our dreams and goals and in RE we will be learning what Christians believe about Jesus. In Geography we will focus on our fieldwork. We look at maps of our school and of our wider area.

PE

This half term our sports will be Football and Squash. We are very fortunate to have two coaches returning and leading the children in their PE lessons. Children should continue to come to school in their PE kits which are suitable for the outdoor weather conditions. PE days for both classes are on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Tuesday- Indoor- Squash with Coach Steve

Wednesday- Outdoor- Football with Coach Chris.

Homework and learning at home

Homework will be distributed in homework folders. We would ask that a minimum of five tasks be completed by the end of the Spring Term. The due date for all the homework is 31st of March. These assignments can be brought into school or “turned in” on Google classroom.

In addition, we expect the children to read every day. This could be a chapter of their book, reading with a sibling, a recipe, logging in to **Reading Mates** to read a book online, or a news article or even a poem! Our main focus this half term is on learning our times tables and we will be discussing strategies to learn these with children in school. Please continue to log into Doodle Maths daily as you strive to stay in the green zone.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Burbea and Miss Sweetman

