

Wednesday 15th January 2020

Dear Parent or Carer,

Welcome back, we hope you have all had a good break. The children appear refreshed and ready to embrace the challenges in their learning.

This term we are starting to use **Curriculum Maestro** which is an exciting and dynamic way of learning and ensuring coverage of all subjects. This term instead of holding a class assembly, we will invite you to our classroom to see the work that is reflected in their learning. We will hold this on **Wednesday March 11th** at **3.00pm**. Our topics this term are called '**Flow**' which will involve a trip to Bakers Park to explore the River and discover what lives there. From this, we will investigate the water cycle and find out about other rivers in the world. After half term our topic will be called '**Tribal Tales**' where we will step back into prehistoric times and explore what life was like.

Literacy Our daily Literacy sessions will now follow the topics mentioned incorporating all genres of writing. We have started the term with poetry by learning and performing 'The River' by Valerie Bloom, which has been inspiring. After this, we will move into journal, instructions and debate writing, which is linked to our topic and narrative writing after half term. Our Literacy sessions will continue to provide a range of reading, writing and, speaking and listening opportunities similar to the Literacy and Language 3 Programme, which we taught in the autumn term. Handwriting, spelling and correct use of grammar and punctuation still remain important parts of our daily teaching time and will continue to be addressed through Literacy and Superskills.

Your child continues to be sent home with weekly spellings to learn and practise over the week from the statutory Y3/4 word list. The children in Year 3 are really enjoying the challenges of Accelerated Reading (AR) too. They are showing more independence now. However please can we stress the importance of ensuring your child brings their book home daily. You can help your child's understanding of reading by asking them relevant questions about what they have read, and checking AR quiz scores together. The best progress is made by those children who are managing this well. Don't forget **Come Read with Me** takes place every **Tuesday at 9am**.

Mathematics In Mathematics, there continues to be a strong emphasis on problem solving, reasoning and using fractions. The children have really impressed us with the progress and knowledge they are gaining. Please help by encourage your child to learn their times tables it makes all the difference and at the end of Year 3 your child needs to know x3, x6, x4 x8 as well as x2 x5 x10 from previous learning.

PE In the afternoons, your child will need a full PE kit in school all week. You can help by ensuring that your child always has a complete PE kit, including supportive footwear. It is advisable that they keep their kit in school and is washed half termly. We will be swimming in the Summer Term this year, instead of the Spring Term.

Preview and Growth Mindset. We were amazed with some of the fantastic preview learning the children produced about Harvest and Electricity, not just the creativity of the finished pieces, but the depth of knowledge they gained as a result. Following this success, we will continue to produce tasks for your children linked to the topics mentioned above. As part of our work around Growth Mindset this term, place greater emphasis on 'P4C', MindUp and Mental Health and Wellbeing. In a few weeks' time we will acknowledge '**Kindness**' week which will incorporate many of these elements. Please encourage your children to talk at home too as this really helps with their understanding and learning in all subjects. It is especially helpful if you ask your child to explain their opinions and thinking processes

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Kind Regards

Vicky Romain and Carmen Sanchez.

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