Working Hard!

We can’t believe how quickly the first half term has gone! Year 3 are settling well into the routines of the Junior School and we’d like to thank you for your support with the transition. Children really enjoyed the first topic of ‘Scavengers and Settlers’.

Children really enjoyed the first topic of ‘Scavengers and Settlers’.

English

This half term, we will be focusing on ‘Cat Tales—Ice Cat’ by Linda Newbery for our English lessons and writing a diary entry, looking at poetry and writing a narrative. We will also be reading ‘The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe’ in preparation for half term 3.

Maths

Work this half term will include:

- Measures
- Fractions
- Angles
- Continuing with times tables

The children should know their 2, 5 and 10 times tables fluently by the end of Year 2. This means knowing the related division facts as well, for example, 2×5=10, 10÷2=5 etc. By the end of Year 3, the children will also need to know their 3, 4 and 8 times tables fluently.

Reading

- Children will continue to bring home reading books regularly and should be encouraged to write 3 quality comments in their reading records (e.g. settings, feelings about the characters or particular events they enjoyed or disliked).
- All children have a guided reading session with their class teacher every week where their reading records will be looked at.
- Children will be given one ‘smile’ per week for three or more quality entries, about any of the books that they have read.
- Although children should be writing comments regularly, we still welcome parental comments and ask that you sign their diaries.
- The main focus for their reading should be comprehension (understanding of the text) rather than solely word recognition.

Homework

Maths and English homework continues to be set on a Friday and needs to be signed and returned by the following Wednesday.

Spellings will continue to be sent home each week. We encourage children to use any of the spelling strategies that help them to learn these words. We ask that all maths and English homework books are signed by an adult at home please.

Just a few important reminders:

- We are a healthy eating school and so we do ask that the children only have healthy snacks in their lunch boxes. Chocolate and sweets are not allowed.
- Please ensure that your child has a small purse or wallet in order for them to carry their money as we encourage the children to keep their money on them at all times and not leave it in their coats, bags or trays.
- If your child requires an inhaler, please ensure that they have two labelled (with child’s name) inhalers in school (one on their person and one to be stored in the first aid room).
During this topic, we will be learning all about the Roman Empire, Roman lifestyles and the Romans in Britain.

3L (Mrs Bush) will continue to take her class swimming on Thursday afternoons for PE. 3L’s last swimming session will take place on 5th December.

3L will be doing gymnastics and netball for their PE sessions on a Monday and Friday afternoon. 3J will also be doing gymnastics as well as having Rugby coaching from Bournville Rugby Club.

The lead up to Christmas is a busy time in school, there will be occasions when the hall will be out of action for PE, for example in preparation for the Christmas Fair or music assemblies. In these situations, our indoor PE lesson won't be able to take place as other year groups use the hall throughout the week.

PSHE this half term deals with 'Celebrating difference' where pupils will be looking at families and how they are all important as well as saying kind words to one another.

Our Science topic will be 'Forces.' During this topic, children will be exploring how we can use magnets and the effect they have.

Our RE focus will be on 'Incarnation' and, of course, the Christmas story. Year 3 will be leading our Christmas assembly on Thursday 19th December at 9:00am (this is due to finish at approximately 9:30am) and we welcome all parents/carers to attend. Please note we have changed this date so parents with children at the Infant school are able to see their Christmas performances as well as the year 3 assembly, also, due to school being closed on Thursday 12th December we have lost an afternoon of rehearsal!

Dates for your diaries:
8th November—year 3 Roman inspiration day
19th November—Flu vaccinations
29th November - Non uniform day, bring a bottle for the Christmas fair (details to follow)
2nd December—Whole school Eucharist (times to be confirmed)
6th December—Christmas fair
12th December—School closed for elections
13th December—Children's Christmas dinner
16th December—Tinsel disco (after school)
19th December—Year 3 Christmas assembly (9-9:30)
19th December—Year 3 Christmas party, after lunch in the hall, children to bring a change of clothes
20th December—Toy day, Panto in the afternoon (more details to follow) and children break up from school.

As you can see, there is a lot happening between now and Christmas. Lots of hard work to be done as well as many opportunities to have fun!

Please contact us if you have any queries or concerns in the next few weeks.
With our many thanks,

Mrs Hamilton, Mrs Bush, Miss Harvey, Mr Kuriger, Mrs Askari and Mrs Millward.

The Year 3 Team.