Thursday 24th January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Spring term of Year 3 at West Twyford Primary School. Please take your time to read this letter, outlining the programme of study this term.

**Numeracy**

The children will continue to follow the Singapore approach to learning Maths. This method develops pupils' mathematical skills and confidence. The children will use concrete materials to understand maths concepts. This is a 'hands on' component using real objects and it is the foundation for conceptual understanding. Children will then be able to represent the problem using pictures and diagrams and use mathematical notation to represent the problem. This is called the Concrete-Pictorial-Abstract approach and is the core of Singapore Maths.

The children will continue to practise their 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

In the Spring term we will learn about;

- Measuring length, mass and volume
- Adding, subtracting and comparing amounts of **money**
- Telling the **time** on analogue and digital clocks to the nearest minute
- Problem solving

**Literacy**

Literacy lessons are comprised of reading, writing, comprehension, spelling, grammar, punctuation and drama to give the children rich and eloquent English.

This term we will be studying these books which also link with our learning in topic.

- Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs
- Katie's Picture Show
- Paperbag Prince
Big Writing

The children will have an extended time in which to write one piece of detailed writing a week. This writing will be supported by their Big Talk homework, VCOP games and teaching input. It will form the basis for their writing assessment in Year 3 and will be marked thoroughly to give the children targets. These targets are vital to help the children improve their writing and will be based on improving their VCOP, as explained below.

V- Vocabulary- using ambitious vocabulary not expected for their age e.g. exquisite

C- Connectives- using connectives to connect sentences e.g. because, however, but

O- Openers- using openers to open sentences e.g. first, meanwhile

P- Punctuation- using the correct punctuation in sentences e.g. ! ? , ... ( ) ; “ ”

Big Reading

These lessons are designed to equip children with the necessary skills to help them read well but also comprehend, deduce and infer knowledge from what they have read. The children will use the following characters to help them complete their reading missions.

R- Rex the Retriever

E- Expi the Explorer

A- Ansa the Analyser

D- Dood the Detective

Spelling

The children will continue to have a fortnightly spelling test. They must also continue to practise their spelling bee words at the front of their homework book.

Children will also learn patterns and rules in spelling, such as adding prefixe}s and suffixes.

Handwriting

In Year 3 handwriting and presentation are very important. Children will only receive a handwriting pen once their handwriting is fluent, legible, and consistent. To do this they most know how and when to join letters.

Science

In science we will be learning about Forces, Magnets and Light:

• **Forces and Magnets** – We will review knowledge of forces and observe magnets and magnetic materials, understanding this as a force. We will investigate the relative strength of magnets, also developing understanding of scientific questions and of a fair test.
• **Light** – We will identify opaque, transparent and translucent materials. We will investigate how light travels and the different light sources there are. We will be learning about colour and rainbows and how shadows are formed.

The children will use skills in gathering, recording and classifying data. They will record findings using scientific language and present results in drawings, charts and tables. They will make predictions and draw conclusions using evidence to support their answering of questions.

**Topic**

In topic we will be learning about **Weather**. We will be learning about:

- Different clouds
- Extreme weathers (hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding)
- The water cycle
- Weather in artwork
- Different climates around the World

**French**

The children will have a basic introduction to French including learning the vocabulary for:

- Days of the week and months
- Weather
- Greetings

**Music**

Children will learn with our specialist music teacher Miss Parker. They will be composing their own music, learning to play the J-Sax, singing and listening to a variety of classical, traditional and popular music. Please encourage your child to join our choir or band.

**PE**

Children will have PE lessons twice a week, therefore they need to bring PE kits on a Monday and take them home again on Friday. Your child will need sports shorts, a T-shirt, sweatshirt and trainers all labelled in a PE bag. The colours of the PE kit are now blue and white. Football team strips are not permitted. Tracksuit bottoms may be handy when it’s cold.

They will play a variety of games with our specialist PE teacher Mr Graham and learn key PE skills such as balance, coordination and strength with Miss Ravic. Mr Graham will also run a lunchtime sports club for the children.
Homework

Homework will be handed out on a Friday and expected back for the next Tuesday. It will consist of Numeracy and Literacy Homework. **Big Talk homework is sent home every Thursday and must be brought back to school on Friday.** Once every two weeks the children will receive spelling homework.

Trips

This term our trips will be to the Science Museum and The National Gallery.

Please feel free to come to school to discuss any issues or concerns you may have. Please visit the school website at [www.west-twyzford.ealing.sch.uk](http://www.west-twyzford.ealing.sch.uk) for regular updates on our learning.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Ravic

Class Teacher

Rachel Martin

Headteacher