



Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome to Bushfield and to a brand new school year. We have an exciting Autumn Term planned for Year 3. We have already started to get to know your children and they are settling into Bushfield life well. You will have an opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher in October's consultation meetings but if any issues arise in the meantime please do not hesitate to contact school and arrange an appointment. Our themes this term will be Ancient Britain and Brazil.

### Subject Overviews

#### English

This half term we will be using the book, 'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura, taking part in drama activities and debates before writing our own narrative about the Stone Age which links to our topic. We will also be using the book as a stimulus for writing instructions. We will also be using the book, 'Cave Baby' by Julia Donaldson to write from a different viewpoint. After half term we will be writing poems and non-chronological reports about the rainforest. Across the Autumn term we will also work on grammar, reading skills, spelling and handwriting which includes getting used to writing in pen.

#### Maths

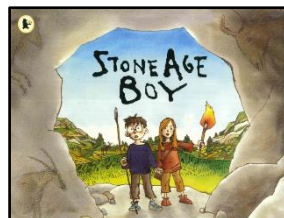
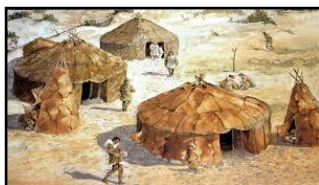
In maths we will begin by looking at place value of numbers up to 1000. This will then lead on to developing written methods starting with addition and subtraction before moving onto multiplication and division. We will also be helping the children to develop their problem solving skills and their ability to link mathematical learning. We will also be concentrating on our times tables. Initially, our target tables will be 2x, 5x, and 10x, moving onto 3x and 4x later in the term.

#### Science

We will begin our science by learning about animals and humans. We will be comparing human and animal skeletons and learning about how the muscles work. We will also discuss healthy eating and balanced diets.

#### Computing

In computing we will begin with how to log on and off independently then explore how to open, edit and save documents. They will also start to develop their typing skills.



*Be the best you can be.*

### **Topic (History and Geography)**

In history we will be learning about Ancient Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. We will look at how their communities worked, what they ate and wore and how they began to use tools and different materials.

### **PSHE**

We start the year by exploring the different types of relationships we have with different people. We look at the characteristics of friendship and how to be a good friend as well as looking at courtesy, manners and mutual respect which links with both the British Values and our school ethos.

### **Design Technology (DT)**

In DT we will be exploring the types of shelters built by and used by people in Ancient Britain. We will use this information to design and make our own shelter using these techniques.

### **PE & Games**

On Tuesday mornings, the children will take part in a 60 minute PE lesson. This half term the children will be learning how to play badminton focussing on their ball and racket skills. They will move on to dance after the half term break. On Wednesday afternoons, the children will be focusing on football, health related fitness/outdoor adventure activities and cross country.

### **Music**

In Year 3 we have a specialist music teacher, Mrs Yeo. First the children will learn how to sing and what makes an effective performance. Pitch, tone, harmony and dimensions of music will be explored.

### **French**

French will be taught throughout the year by Mrs Coffey who uses a range of games, rhymes, songs and role-play to immerse the children in the language. The children will begin by learning simple greetings and introductions. Then they will be exploring the language and developing their confidence through an interactive story called 'Milo's adventures in the rainforest' which links to our topic.

### **Assessment**

Each term the children will complete a set of assessment papers, which includes maths, reading, grammar, spelling and writing assessments. We use the results to inform our planning and to identify children who need additional support. We also report the results to you at Parents' Evening so you can see the progress your child is making

## Homework

### Reading

We ask that children read each day for 10 minutes. Each child in Year 3 will be issued with a level appropriate reading book within the first two weeks. It really helps their progress if they are heard regularly at home and we would be grateful if you could initial their Personal Log each time you hear them. You can also access books online through Oxford Owl.

### Maths

To support the times tables check (MTC) which happens nationally in Year 4, the children will be given time in school to practise their times tables and will be tested regularly. They can also practise online using TT Rock Stars where they can earn certificates for practising the most or being the most improved student.

### Spellings

The children will be set a new spelling list to learn once a week on a Thursday. Their new lists are glued into their personal logs. We find that practising for a few minutes every day really helps the children to learn and remember their spelling patterns and rules. Spelling will be assessed each term. Children can practise in their books or online using EdShed where they can play games, earn points and maybe a certificate.

### Topic

We also set a homework project per topic which enables the children to further explore their learning. The children are encouraged to complete this homework and we share all of the projects with the whole year group.

*Children are encouraged to complete their homework because it reinforces the learning which takes place in school and is another opportunity to practise the skills they have learned. Those who complete their homework regularly and to a good standard will earn rewards.*

### Snack

Please remember to pack a healthy snack such as fruit or a cereal bar for your child to eat at playtime.

### Year group information - pictures below from left to right:

- **Head of Year 3** – Mrs A Wheatley
- **Teachers:** Mr Brown, Miss A Thomas
- **Teaching Assistants:** Mrs M Haith, Mrs V Lyon, Mrs A Ahmed



### Items to remember

- Practise TT Rockstars regularly
- Spellings - practise spelling words each week which are given out every Thursday
- Reading – read for 10 minutes each day
- PE Kit – children should arrive to school in suitable kit for the time of year (Tuesday and Wednesday) – label all clothing and water bottles

### Useful websites

- [www.linguafun.eu](http://www.linguafun.eu)—for French
- [www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk)
- [www.ttrockstars.com](http://www.ttrockstars.com)—for times tables
- [www.edshed.com](http://www.edshed.com)—for spelling practice through games

*Logins for TT Rockstars and EdShed are in their personal logs.*

### Upcoming Events in Autumn

- 12<sup>th</sup> September Residential Information Evening
- 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September – Parents Evenings
- 25<sup>th</sup> October – Break up for half term holiday
- 5<sup>th</sup> November – Return to school

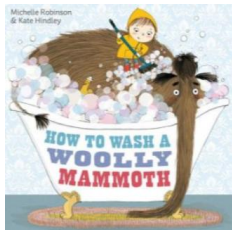
### **Did you know we now have a Facebook page?**

We have created a Facebook page which will show any news and events across the Viaduct Federation of schools, it is titled 'The Bushfield and Wyvern Viaduct Federation of Schools'. Like us and keep up to date with any fun school events and news!





**Suggested Books – a range of fiction and non-fiction linked to the topics and themes of the half term should your child wish to read further or need inspiration on what to read next!**



A whimsical and quirky picture book doubling as an instruction manual for the 'mammoth' task of washing this prehistoric beast.



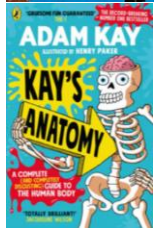
Readers follow the main character's journey to try and redeem himself and prove himself to others in his village. With further stories following in the series, readers have the opportunity to continue their journey with Wolf if they have enjoyed the story.



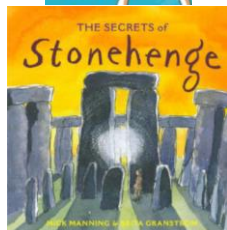
A classic children's novel about a young boy who encounters a strange cave-dwelling creature called Stig. Stig takes the boy on a series of fantastic adventures into prehistoric times



A laugh-out-loud rumpus woven through a touching story of family and friendship, from the duo behind the popular Charlie Changes into a Chicken series.



This funny non-fiction compendium of knowledge explores the intricacies of the human body through engaging cartoon-style illustrations that cover everything from major organs to microscopic DNA.



The Secrets of Stonehenge is a fascinating information text full of images, questions and captions that probe deeply into the mysteries of Stonehenge. This engaging non-fiction text is easy to understand, visually appealing and bursting with interesting facts and theories about the mysteries of Stonehenge.