



## Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome back! Our theme for the summer term is 'Ancient Greece'. We will be linking our learning across the curriculum so that the children really get the sense of the history, the beliefs and the culture of the ancient Greeks.

### Subject Overviews

#### English

As always, our focus will be on sentence construction, using punctuation accurately for specific purposes and developing our creativity as writers. This term, we will be reading a variety of Greek myths and using characters and ideas to create our own version of some familiar stories. We will also be revisiting our work on non-chronological texts which will help us research our topic and write a report on a Greek god. We will be using the features of a different genre of story writing when we write our quest myths.

#### Maths

Year 3 will be continuing with our work on measure which we began last term, focussing on mass and capacity. We will also be developing our understanding about fractions and using our knowledge to find fractions of amounts, before moving on to our money unit where we will be using addition and subtraction to solve reasoning problems including finding change.

#### Science

The first part of the summer term will focus on learning about light to include how shadows are created and how it is reflected. We will be using practical resources and investigation to support our learning and understanding.

#### Computing

In computing, we will be focussing on coding and debugging using Scratch. The children will be learning how algorithms are a set of commands for a program to carry out operations and will be writing and testing their own algorithms.

#### History

The topic for the summer is the 'Ancient Greeks'. We will be investigating who they were, where Greece is in the world and various aspects of their lives. Art, story and drama will be used to help the children to better understand life in the time of the Ancient Greeks. We will be comparing lifestyles of the Ancient Greeks and our own modern lives as well as looking at what they believe and how they worship. The final week of this half term, we will hold a 'Greek Day' where the children will enjoy many different activities including dressing up and trying Greek food. More details to follow.

## **RE**

This half term in Religious Education, Year 3 will be learning about key aspects of Islam. Pupils will explore what Muslims believe about God (Allah) and why these beliefs are important. They will learn about the life of Prophet Muhammad and understand why he is a significant figure for Muslims. The class will also study the mosque, discovering how it reflects Muslim beliefs and supports worship. Finally, children will examine the Qur'an and its central role in guiding Muslim life and beliefs.

## **Art**

This term, we will be looking at the skills involved in sketching using a variety of different grades of pencil to experiment with tone and shade. We will be recording our observations by sketching the fine details while understanding the proportion and scale of what we are drawing. Once we are finished, we will evaluate our own and others' work objectively against the success criteria.

## **PE & Games**

This term, in PE and Games, the children will experience a range of opportunities in the following: Athletics: track and field as well as multi skills focussing on coaching and officiating. The children will be learning to enhance their Athletics abilities in all areas. These include sprinting, endurance running, throwing and jumping. Children will be continuously looking to better their own personal performance.

## **Music**

This term, the children will learn where the Samba originated and will explore the syncopated rhythms working towards creating a multi-layered ensemble. They will also explore the works of Beethoven, specifically his 5th symphony with a focus on pitch and rhythm in a classical context.

## **French**

This term, we will be reading the French version of "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" and creating our own story books. Then we will be working around the theme of "ice-creams". Activities include talking about our favourite flavours, learning how to buy an ice-cream, understanding menus and prices and making our own ice-cream menus.

## **Homework**

### **Reading**

We ask that children are listened to while they read for about 10 minutes a day. If children complete a book review (copies are available in school) and bring it to a teacher to be signed, they can be entered into a prize draw to win an Amazon Fire tablet! Raffle tickets are also given to children to reward them for positive reading behaviour and then entered into a prize draw to win a book from our friendly book vending machine, Jeff!

### **Maths**

The children are set homework using Times Tables Rock Stars which they have access to both in school and at home on any device with internet access.

### **Spellings**

The children will still receive new spellings on a Thursday which will be stuck in their Personal Organisers.

Year group information - pictures below from left to right:

- **Head of Year 3** – Mrs O’Grady
- **Teachers:** Mrs Shirley, Mr Brown, Mr McArthur
- **Teaching Assistants:** Mrs M Haith, Mrs V Lyon, Miss M Reid, Miss T Lawrence



**Items to remember**

- Practise TT Rockstars twice per week
- Spellings - new spellings every Friday
- Reading – read each day
- PE Kit – Tuesday and Wednesday
- Label all clothing and water bottles
- Snack - please remember to pack a healthy snack for your child to eat at playtime.

**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

Your children have logins for both of these websites. If you don't have them, we can remind you of the details.

**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!

