



Viaduct Federation of Schools



Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

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 explore *Stone Age Boy* by Satoshi Kitamura through drama and debates, leading to writing our own Stone Age narrative linked to our topic. We will also use the book as a stimulus for writing instructions. Additionally, we will read *Cave Baby* by Julia Donaldson and write from a different viewpoint. After half term, our focus will shift to writing poems and non-chronological reports about the rainforest. Throughout the term, we will continue to develop grammar, reading skills, spelling, and handwriting, including practicing writing neatly in pen.

Maths

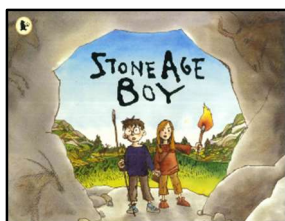
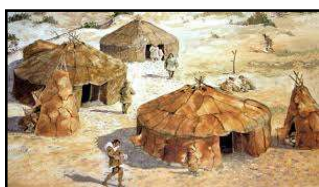
We will start with place value of numbers up to 1000, then progress to written methods for addition and subtraction, followed by multiplication and division. The children will develop problem-solving skills and learn to connect different areas of maths. We will also focus on times tables, starting with 2x, 5x, and 10x, and moving on to 3x and 4x later in the term.

Science

Our science topic covers animals and humans. We will compare human and animal skeletons, learn about muscles and how they work, and discuss healthy eating and balanced diets.

Computing

Children will learn to log on and off independently, open, edit, and save documents, and begin developing their typing skills.



Be the best you can be.

Topic (History and Geography)

In history, we will study Ancient Britain, from the Stone Age to the Iron Age, focusing on their communities, diet, clothing, and early use of tools and materials.

PSHE

We will explore different types of relationships, focusing on the qualities of friendship, how to be a good friend, and the importance of courtesy, manners, and mutual respect. This links closely to British Values and our school ethos.

Design Technology (DT)

Children will investigate shelters used in Ancient Britain and apply this knowledge to design and build their own shelters using traditional techniques.

PE & Games

On Thursday mornings, children will have a 60-minute PE lesson focusing on badminton, developing ball and racket skills, before moving on to dance after half term. Wednesday afternoons will focus on football, health-related fitness, outdoor adventure activities, and cross country.

Music

We benefit from a specialist music teacher, Mrs Yeo. The children will learn to sing and explore what makes an effective performance, including pitch, tone, harmony, and musical dimensions.

French

Taught by Mrs Coffey throughout the year, French lessons use games, rhymes, songs, and role-play to immerse children in the language. They will begin with simple greetings and introductions, then develop confidence through an interactive story called *Milo's Adventures in the Rainforest*, which links to our topic.

Assessment

Each term, children complete assessments in maths, reading, grammar, spelling, and writing. Results help us tailor planning and identify those needing extra support. We share these results with you at Parents' Evening to keep you informed of your child's progress.

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 log how long they have read through the 'Track My Read' website 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 spelling books. 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 L Shirley
- **Teachers:** Mr Brown, Miss Thomas, Mrs Macdonald
- **Teaching Assistant:** Mrs V Lyon, Mrs Haith
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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 (Wednesday and Thursday) – label all clothing and water bottles

Useful websites

- www.linguafun.eu—for French
- www.oxfordowl.co.uk
- www.ttrockstars.com—for times tables
- www.edshed.com—for spelling practice through games
- www.trackmyread.org7

Logins for TT Rockstars, EdShed & Track My Read are in their spelling books.

Upcoming Events in Autumn

- 17th September - Residential Information Evening
- 29th & 30th September– Parents Evenings
- 23rd October – Break up for half term holiday
- 2nd November – Return to school
- 18th December – End of Autumn Term

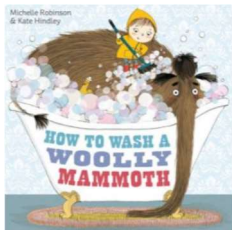
Did you know we have a Facebook page?

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!





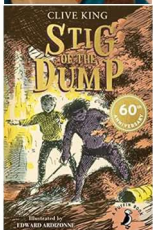
Suggested Books – a range of fiction and non-fiction linked to the topics and themes of the half term should your child wish to read further or need inspiration on what to read next!



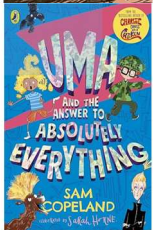
A whimsical and quirky picture book doubling as an instruction manual for the 'mammoth' task of washing this prehistoric beast.



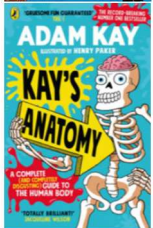
Readers follow the main character's journey to try and redeem himself and prove himself to others in his village. With further stories following in the series, readers have the opportunity to continue their journey with Wolf if they have enjoyed the story.



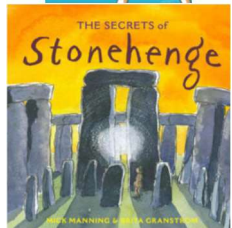
A classic children's novel about a young boy who encounters a strange cave-dwelling creature called Stig. Stig takes the boy on a series of fantastic adventures into prehistoric times



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.



Track My Read – Helping children to love reading!

Reading for pleasure – whether reading on their own or sharing a story – is one of the best ways a child can spend their time.

Research shows that:

- Reading each day can help children improve in all their school subjects
- Reading for just 6 minutes a day can reduce stress by 68%
- Children who read for pleasure are more likely to do well at GCSEs

Choosing to read provides all sorts of benefits – it's comforting, relaxing, reduces anxiety, builds empathy and understanding and aids learning... but above all it's fun!

Track My Read is a new tool from national charity, Read for Good, designed to encourage pupils to read regularly and to help schools understand more about what and how pupils want to read.

We've set our pupils a reading challenge as a group – to read a certain number of minutes – and we'd like your child to participate. Their teacher will see your child's responses, but no-one else will.

Your child will be given a unique URL link with a few short questions to complete each time they've spent some time reading:

- Go to the unique URL link provided by the school (on any device with internet access)
- Bookmark or save the link so that they can easily use the link again and again
- They must login with their username and passcode to get to their Dashboard
- To log their Reading Minutes, press the orange **Log a new read** and enter the information.
- Then just press **Submit**.
- Now they will reach their own '**Celebration Page**', showing their progress and with achievement badges and time rewards.