



Year 3  
Spring



## Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parent / Carer

Happy New Year to you all. This term brings with it a few challenges for us all with some of the children working from home and some in school. We will be following our planned curriculum, regardless of where your child is based, in order for them to all have access to a wide variety of learning opportunities. We appreciate that some of the practical activities might be challenging to complete at home if you don't have the resources but it is important that the children understand the concepts even if they don't do the activity.

### English

In this term, the children will be continuing to learn about the different types of text. They will be writing informal letters and recounts where they will be learning to use imperative verbs and time conjunctions accurately. They will also be writing an explanation of how a volcano erupts which links to our new Active Planet topic. They will be looking at a range of punctuation, the different word classes and extending their knowledge of sentences and the different sentence types.

### Maths

There will be a big focus this term on developing the children's written methods in all four operations. We will continue to look at word problems ensuring the children have the confidence to apply their new skills to a range of question types and situations. We will also be looking at measure, money, shape and statistics. If you could look at measure at home when cooking that would be very useful.

### Science

In Science we are learning to identify the different types of rocks and group them according to their properties. The children will be learning about our natural planet through the work of Mary Anning and the study of fossils. We will also be getting our hands dirty as we make our own compost with real life worms!

### Computing

Our focus in Computing this term is to ensure children understand their digital footprint and how they can keep safe online. We will move onto practising our touch typing skills to support our unit based on emails, where the children will write, send and receive emails.

### Topic (History and Geography)

In Geography we will be looking at how the Active Planet causes natural disasters that affect the lives of people all around the world. We will be locating volcanoes on world maps and Google Earth and will learn about the tectonic plates that move to cause earthquakes. We will be looking specifically at different volcanoes and earthquakes in Italy including the eruption of Mount Vesuvius which took place in Pompeii in 79AD. This will become a stimulus for our writing in English. We will also complete a study of the human and physical geography of Italy as well as its climate, biomes and vegetation belts.

### PSHE

In PSHE this term we will be looking at staying healthy through looking after our mental, emotional and physical health. We are going to be looking at understanding the term 'stranger danger' and identifying safe adults.

### Design Technology (DT)

Throughout this term, in Design Technology, we will be exploring various measuring equipment and their uses within the context of our topic 'Active Planet'. The children will be making weather vanes, rain gauges, anemometers and seismographs to support their learning with this.

### PE & Games

In PE the children will be using our new and exciting Outside Adventure Activity (OAA) resource, orienteering around the school site. Also during this half term the children will be learning the famous Bushfield warm up dance while learning about beat and temp in dance. In Games the children will be continuing with the learning of invasion games as they learn how to play Tag Rugby and Hockey. The PE team also ask that you please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather.

### Music

This term the children will be exploring pitch in steps and leaps using the scale patterns from Do a Deer. They will be exploring the work of Jazz Musician Yolanda Brown and learning to identify the sounds of different instruments. They will create their own music using rhythm in body percussion.

### French

In the first half term we will be continuing our work on colours before learning some action songs about parts of the body. In the second half term we will be learning to describe our town. All children have access to the website [www.linguafun.eu](http://www.linguafun.eu) if they wish to top up on their skills at home.

### Assessment

As part of monitoring progress, and to help us best support your child, we will be asking your child to carry out some assessments. These will include various maths, reading, grammar, spelling and writing assessments.

### Homework:

#### Reading

We ask that children are listened to while they read for about 10 minutes a day. They have an appropriate reading book given to them by the school but they could also choose to read a book from home or the library. Please support them by recording their reading in their organisers. While you are working from home, please use the resources at Oxford Owl to support reading. You can select books from the eBook which are the same colours (levels) as the books the children can access in school. Children who read at least 5 times per week are awarded merits.

### 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. They may also be set written homework which will go home on a Friday.

### Spellings

The children will still receive new spellings on a Wednesday which will be stuck in their Personal Organisers. They will be tested the following Wednesday.

### Useful Websites

[www.linguafun.eu](http://www.linguafun.eu)—for French

[www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk)

Login: Y3 Fir Class (if your child is in one of the other classes, use that class name instead)

Password: reading

[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.

Thank you very much for all you are doing to support your child's learning. If we can be of any help at all please contact us on the Year 3 email. [year3@bushfieldschool.org](mailto:year3@bushfieldschool.org)