



Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome back! The children are becoming a really good team, are very settled and are working hard at Bushfield. We have some exciting learning to do this term and both the staff and children are already enthused about our new topic 'The Active Planet'.

## Subject Overviews

### English

In the first term, the children will be continuing to learn about the various different types of text. They will be writing a diary in the first person using their empathy skills and an informal letter. They will be looking at a range of punctuation, the different word classes and extending their knowledge of sentences and the different sentence types.

During the 2nd half term we will be writing a suspense narrative and a holiday brochure based on their learning around our topic of Italy.

### Maths

There will be a big focus this term on developing the children's written methods with a focus on all four written methods: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. 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.

After half term, we will look at measure and statistics too. In order to support your child with their maths, we would appreciate it if you could help them practise their times tables regularly.

### 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!

### Computing

Our focus in computing this term is online safety where we will be looking at how to keep themselves safe, what people can see online and privacy settings. We will also be looking at some of the consequences of not keeping themselves safe online and how to report concerns.

### 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. We will touch on History later in the term when we will be discussing the events that took place in Pompeii in 79AD. This will become a stimulus for our writing in English.

## **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. We will also be discussing the NSPCC Pants Rule. If you would like to see what we will be discussing with your children, all the information can be found online: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

## **Design Technology (DT)**

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

## **PE & Games**

During the indoor PE sessions on Tuesday mornings the children will be doing dance and gym. They will learn the Bushfield Warm Up dance and maybe get the opportunity to do some ballroom dancing. During the outdoor PE lessons, the children will be taking part in Athletics and OAA (Outdoor Adventurous Activities) which will include team building activities. In games the children will be learning the skills of Hockey and Football. All games sessions will be outside, so please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing to keep them warm. Be aware that they may get muddy, so it is essential they have a change of shoes, and useful if they have a change of socks too.

## **Music**

This term the children will be exploring pitch and the work of the composer Anna Meredith. The children will have a focus on rhythm and will use these taught skills to create their own percussion rhythms.

## **French**

In the first half term we will be linking our French lessons to the Year 3 Art topic and we will be 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.

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.

## 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.

## Topic

Later in the term, children will be set a creative research task. This will be based on our new Active Planet topic. Further details to follow...

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

- **Head of Year 3** – Mrs J Thomas
- **Teachers:** Mrs A Snowdon, Miss Harrison (*photo to follow*), Mrs Wheatley (*photo to follow*), Mrs S Sparshott-Dzialoszynski (*maternity leave*)
- **Teaching Assistants:** Mrs M Haith, Miss D Preston, Mrs V Lyon, Mrs C Downs (*photo to follow*)



### Items to remember

- **Dates/photos/trips/deadlines/parent evening**
- Practise TT Rockstars twice per week
- Spellings - spelling test each Wednesday
- Reading – read each day
- PE Kit – children should arrive to school in suitable kit for the time of year – remember hats in the summer and warmer items in the cooler months – we aim to have PE outside as often as possible!
- 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)
  - Login: Y3 Fir Class (if your child is in one of the other classes, use that class name instead)
  - Password: reading
- [www.trockstars.com](http://www.trockstars.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!

