



# Year 3 Newsletter

## Spring 1—2024/2025



### Notices and Reminders

Our PE day is **Wednesday** Please make sure that you come to school in your PE kit on that day. Reading books and reading records should be in school every day, as well as water bottles and coats (if necessary). If you decide to bring a snack in, please ensure that it is fruit or bread sticks only.

### Reading

This term's focus text is 'Stig of the Dump' by Clive King. This children's novel explores how a young boy named Barney encounters Stig – a caveman and how they quickly become friends. They learn to communicate without any language as Stig does not speak any English. The children will explore the new vocabulary they come across and continue to answer a range of comprehension questions



### Writing

This term's focus in language is starting with learning to choose appropriate determiners as well as learning about different prepositions that express time, place or cause.

During composition lessons the children will be learning, planning and writing a meeting tale based on the Aesop's fable The Lion and the Mouse. They will then be writing a persuasive text about why dogs are great!



### Key dates

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January**  
INSET Day

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January**  
HLSA Swap Shop – 3.15pm

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February**  
Half Term

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March**  
World Book Day

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March**  
Choir Voice in a Million Concert

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April**  
INSET Day

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April**  
Easter Holiday

### Maths

In maths this half term, the children will continue to improve their understanding of multiplication. The children will continue to practise their multiplication tables focusing on the 2, 4 and 8 times tables. They will also learn how to multiply and divide a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number.

The children will then move on to learn about length and perimeter. They will learn how to measure accurately in cm, m and mm. Then they will use this knowledge to help them work out the perimeter of shapes and objects.

## Science

In science this half term, the children will focus on forces and magnets. They will investigate how friction affects the way that objects move on different surfaces. After learning the properties of magnetism, the children will research which materials are magnetic and which are not, through identification and classification.



## Geography

In geography this term, the children will begin by exploring the continents and oceans of the world before learning about the differences in their climate. They will then go on to focus on Africa. After understanding Africa's location, the children will identify its physical and human features. Finally, they will look at Ethiopia in close detail - a country that they had discussed last half term in reading.



## Art

In art this half term, the children are going to explore the artist Henri Matisse, focusing on his still life paintings. They will explore the use of watercolour paints and create their own backwash, before creating their own still life arrangements with different objects. They will consider how the arrangement of objects can impact how a painting looks.



## PE

In PE this half term, the children are going to be improving their flexibility, strength and balance in gymnastics! They will recap forward rolls before moving on to learning backward rolls and teddy bear rolls. They will then learn how to sequence these into a short routine with smooth transitions. The children will also learn about Beth Tweddle, a successful British gymnast.

## Music

In music this half term, the children are going to be using glockenspiels to practise recreating pieces of music. They will have opportunities to focus on the key notes used within each genre and improvise their own melody. The children will also be learning how long and short (rhythm) and high and low (pitch) sounds can be represented by musical symbols.



## PSHE

In PSHE this half term, the children will be looking at what makes a community. To do this, they will learn about diversity, equality and equity. Towards the end of the half term, the children will learn what a stereotype is and will learn to challenge them.



## French

In French this half term, the children will be focussing on phonics and pronunciation. They will learn a selection of phonemes which will help them to pronounce French words accurately. Through the unit, the children will practice hearing and saying the sounds individually, then in a word and finally in a piece of text.

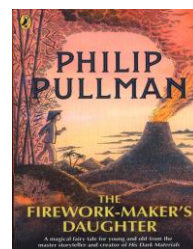
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## Suggested books for reading



The Firework Maker's Daughter by Phillip Pullman,  
The Boy Who Grew Dragons by Andy Shepherd