

Friday 23rd October 2015

Year 3 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

After a busy half term we want to reflect on the amazing start to the year your children have made. They have all settled into their new classes well and have enjoyed an action packed 7 weeks!



Here's a quick look at what we've been up to:

Maths - We started the term ordering 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers, partitioning using thousands, hundreds, tens and units, and reading and writing numbers in both figures and words. We then moved onto addition and subtraction using mental strategies to estimate and calculate. In the last couple of weeks we have completed a unit of work on time. This included using calendars, telling the time and an introduction into Roman numerals. You can support this further at home by ensuring your child knows the order of the months and has regular practice at telling the time. With Christmas approaching you may wish to think about buying your child an analogue watch (with hands, not digital) as telling the time is a concept nearly all children find difficult. We have seen rapid progress with maths HKP targets, thank you for the support with practising, please keep this up over the holiday.

Literacy - We have learnt lots about Roald Dahl and used his great stories as inspiration for our letter writing topic. We have also been enjoying reading 'The Twits and used this as a basis for creating our own comic strips with practical jokes. You may have seen the lovely Autumn poetry on display in the corridor, the children worked hard to write an acrostic using adjectives and some similes. Over the past two weeks we have been looking at instructions and after identifying features of instructions and completing grammar work on using imperative (bossy) verbs the children wrote instructions today on 'How to make a Stone Age tool'. These were of the highest quality and really show off many children's joined handwriting or improved presentation.



Science - The children have had a brilliant time discovering how rocks are formed, how the Earth's structure is made up and how volcanoes are created. The highlight of the topic was erupting our volcanoes and of course visiting the Natural History Museum to discover even more about rocks. We now look forward to our new topic of 'Forces and Magnets' after half term.

Topic - Our Stone Age topic is well under way and we had a great time discovering about how the Stone Age people lived and what life would have been like. This has included creating beautiful cave paintings, making and testing out Stone Age tools and looking at evidence. This was consolidated with the Stone Age drama workshop the children enjoyed towards the beginning of term. We will be moving onto the Bronze Age and Iron Age after half term.

Homework & Spellings - Thank you for all your support with the very high standard of homework being completed each week. We are also grateful for all work on spellings. There is no set homework over half term and no spellings to learn, we feel the children need to rest and return refreshed for Autumn 2. However please do keep up reading skills and times tables practice. Thank you in advance for this

Parent Volunteers - A big thank you to Gina (Daniel's mum) who has been coming in to listen to readers every week. We would love to have parent volunteers in to support the children. If you are able to spare any amount of time to support with listening to readers from both classes, support/lead with gardening activities or share other skills you have then please do let us know. We would love to have you on board!

Class representatives - The class representatives are parent/carer volunteers who will attend PTA meetings, circulate information from the class teacher and meet new parents. Please do come forward if you wish to volunteer for the role. The PTA invite all to attend their meetings, not just class representatives. We are still yet to have a class representative in 3H so do come forward if you think you or a few of you could get together to complete this role.

Please do check the Year 3 class page on the school website for updates and photographs of recent activities and trips.

We wish you a relaxing half term and look forward to seeing you for another action packed lead up to Christmas.

Miss Hallam & Miss Coward

<u>Diary Dates</u>	
2.11.15	INSET day - no school!
13.11.15	Science Museum Trip
20.11.15	Take Over Day
27.11.15	Mufti Day
4.12.15	Pantomime
4.12.15	Christmas Fair

