

Engage, Enquire, Excel at Millfield

This curriculum newsletter provides you with an overview of the learning your child will enjoy over the Spring term.

Year 3

Happy New Year and welcome back! We are looking forward to a new term of exciting learning. This term, our focus will be around, 'Rocks, Relics and Rumble.'

We also have our class assembly on Friday 27th January and would love it if you were able to come and watch!

Engagement and Enquiry through our Learning Challenge:

The Learning Challenge for this half term will be focused on '*Rocks, Relics and Rumble*,' which is a very exciting Geography based topic. The children will learn how sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks are formed and parts of the rock cycle. Whilst recapping the layers of the Earth and plate tectonics, the children will learn about the 'Ring of Fire' and how volcanoes differ around the world. Through English and Guided Reading, the children will learn about Mary Anning as well as other important geologist throughout history. We will learn about how fossils are made, which will then help inspire the children when it comes to the incredible art project called, 'Ammonite'. We will finish the topic looking at case studies of earthquakes and tsunamis. Throughout the topic, the children will become geologists looking and classifying rocks, fossils and soil types!

KEY VOCABULARY: erode, weather, impermeable, molten, organic matter, Ring of Fire, solid, tectonic plate, vent, volcanic eruption, sedimentary, igneous, metamorphic, rock, fossil, minerals, crystals, pressure, heat, continental drift, geologist, Mary Anning, Marie Tharp, volcano, magma chamber, lava, vent, eruption, molten, cooling process, layers, sediment, silt, sand, clay, tsunamis, earthquakes.

While developing their skills as geographers, the children will be able to

- Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: tectonic plates, volcanoes and earthquakes
- Understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world
- Identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle
- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied

English

This term in English, the children will be writing their own biographies, explanation texts and a set of instructions. Guided Reading and English will always be linked with the LCC topic. In the first half term, our Guided Reading and English sessions will allow the children to write a biography about Mary Anning.

We will explore various texts in Guided Reading, such as 'Stone Girl, Bone Girl' and 'The Fossil Girl,' as well as using our knowledge from the Geography lessons. The children will be encouraged to use the powerful vocabulary learnt through Mrs Wordsmith's 'Word of the day.'

In the second half term, the children will be writing explanation texts about magnets. Guided Reading sessions will focus on reading the texts, 'Magnets and Forces,' and 'Magnetism.' Towards the end of the term, the children will have the opportunity to write up a Science experiment as a set of instructions.

Maths

Maths this term will focus on multiplication, division and fractions. We will be learning how to use formal methods to answer multiplication and division questions, such as a two-digit multiplied by a one digit number. Throughout every maths lesson, there will be opportunities for reasoning and problem solving. This year will continue to have a focus on times tables. Year 3 children need to know their 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 times tables by the end of the year ready to know all their times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4. We are now using Times Tables Rock Stars as homework to support the children with their times tables. Every maths lesson will also start with times tables learning and practising.

The wider curriculum linked to our Learning Challenge:

In Geography and the Rocks, Relics and Rumbles project, will also include a fantastic Art project called, 'Ammonite,' which includes the children exploring ammonites through drawing, printing and making using clay. The children will share their learning about their Geography topic After Geography, we move onto Science with a focus on magnets and their forces.

In other subjects the following aspects will be covered:

Geography: 'Rocks, Relics and Rumbles' - Why is a rock lively?

PE: Dance and dodgeball in the first half term and dance and tennis in the second half term.

Science: Forces and magnets exploring the learning question 'Why are magnets important?'

Computing: E-safety day and how to be safe online.

PSHE: Working Together and Diversities and Communities in the first half term and Rights, Rules and Responsibilities in the second half term.

RE: Christianity, Lent

Art: 'Ammonite'- planning, sketching and creating 3D sculptures out of clay based on the structure and their knowledge about ammonites.

DT: 'Making it Move' in which the children will be designing and making an automaton toy

Music: Singing, body percussion and composing music!

French: Dates including days of the week, months, birthdays and asking questions.

Useful Information

Home Learning: Homework will be sent home every Friday and will need to be returned the following Wednesday. We will be sending home a paper copy of the 'Homework Bingo' once a half term but will also be uploading the homework to the Google Classroom, which your child has access to. Homework will involve a Times Tables Rock Stars, spelling words from the previous week and daily reading, including a variety of other choices in the form of 'Homework Bingo.' Children should be reading for a minimum of 10 minutes to an adult at least three times a week. Please upload any records of reading onto Go Read.

PE kit: Please ensure that PE kits are in school all week. An outdoor kit should be included and take into account the more inclement weather. Children must remove jewellery and tie hair back before the P.E. lesson. Please make sure that your child can remove their jewellery independently or not wear it on the days which they have P.E. Indoor PE kits must include shorts and a t shirt and the outdoor PE kit must include jogging bottoms, trainers, a t shirt and a jumper or hoodie to keep them warm in the colder weather.

3EB - PE on a Thursday and Friday. Both indoor and outdoor kits are needed.

3LB - PE on a Monday and Thursday. Both indoor and outdoor kits are needed.

Forest school: Miss Badcock's class will be starting forest school this term. It will be half the class at a time. Please ensure that your child brings in warm clothing, wellies/trainers that can get wet and muddy and waterproofs. If it is raining heavily, the children must have waterproof trousers and a coat, not one or the other.

Maths:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/problem-solving>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/category/22/most-popular>

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/126195>

English:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/spelling-in-year-3-and-year-4>

<https://www.onceuponapicture.co.uk/>

<http://www.pobble365.com/>