

# Park Junior School

*Together We Make A Difference*

Head Teacher Mr David Tebbutt

Deputy Head Mrs Jenny May



Great Park Street, Wellingborough,  
Northamptonshire, NN8 4PH

Tel: 01933 224 501

Fax: 01933 277 976

[www.parkjuniorwellingborough.co.uk](http://www.parkjuniorwellingborough.co.uk)  
[head@park-jun.northants-ecl.gov.uk](mailto:head@park-jun.northants-ecl.gov.uk)

Year 3 Newsletter  
January – April 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers

We hope you have had a fantastic Christmas holiday and an enjoyable New Year. We have enjoyed welcoming back your children to an exciting and busy school term. In this newsletter, we hope to inform you of the thrilling areas your children will be covering throughout these two terms up to Easter.

## **ENGLISH**

This term children will continue to be split into focused groups, in the first part of the morning, to continue their intense programme of phonics, reading and comprehension following the scheme Read, Write Inc. Then they will participate in English lessons studying a diversity of genres starting with the 'Dragon Machine' by Helen Ward followed by the Archaic text, 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. Then after the February half term the children will be studying the 'Tear Thief' by Carol Ann Duffy and 'Escape from Pompeii' by Christina Balti whilst continuing to expand and enhance their English skills.

## **MATHS**

This term the children will continue to follow the new national curriculum for Maths. Your child will participate in focused Maths lessons where they will be concentrating on a diversity of key areas to consolidate their knowledge and understanding. We begin with number focusing on division and multiplication. Followed by fractions - understanding the denominators of unit fractions, compare and order fractions, understanding the numerators of non-unit fractions & understanding the whole, scales and fractions on a number line. Then we focus on measures and length & mass. Recognising and describing 3D shapes along with time and telling it to 5 minutes, digital clocks, and Roman numerals on a clock face.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

This term, Year 3 will be continuing to participate in gymnastics on a Wednesday afternoon and on a Thursday afternoon, for 3JW and a Friday morning for 3KY. The children will be partaking in dance/gymnastics and then 'Real PE' with the focus on Balance & Coordination. Children will need to continue to attend school in their outdoor PE kits for the foreseeable future. We also recommend that children do not wear jewellery/watches, etc on these days. We feel P.E is an important part of the curriculum as it promotes a healthy lifestyle, also team building values and the acquisition of new skills.

## **COMPUTING**

The children will begin the term by recapping their understanding of the internet through the smart values, and the focus area of respecting others and respecting the truth using our E-safety programme. They will continue to learn and refine their communication understanding by using programmes such as, word, publisher, power point, fluency typing and excel. During the next two terms the pupils will



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be working on an embedded unit of animation that links to the Romans and then introduced to 'Scratch', a coding programme, and they will be focusing on sequencing in music.

## **PERSONAL, HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATION AND CITIZENSHIP**

During this term in PHSCE Year 3 will be looking at spiritual and moral aspects of charitable work in natural disasters. This is linked to our geography foci. They will be also exploring their online reputations and how to continue to stay safe online whilst continuing their work on PHSCE through the scheme of work: jigsaw.

## **SCIENCE**

In Science, in our first term, we will be looking at the unit named 'A Night at the Museum'. The children will be learning how to compare and group together different kinds of rocks based on their appearance and simple physical properties. They will be observing rocks, including those used in buildings and gravestones, and exploring how and why they might have changed over time. Then they will look at fossils and describe them in simple terms on how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock. Then we will revisit shadows and consolidate our understanding on how shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object and finding the patterns in the way that the size of shadows changes. Also, they will revisit the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food, and air) whilst identifying those animals, including humans, and the needs, types and amount of nutrition needed whilst discovering why we cannot make our own food.

After the half term, your child works on a new unit called 'Ready Steady Cook'. Within this unit the children will revisit the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, and its uses. They will explore, predict, and describe magnets as having two poles and whether two magnets will attract or repel each other, depending on which poles are facing. They will also observe how magnets attract or repel to each other and attract some materials and not others. They finish this unit with research on the different types of food groups and how they keep us healthy by designing meals based on what they have found out.

## **CREATIVE CURRICULUM**

We start this term with our exciting history unit called the Romans and their impact on Britain. This is linked heavily to all subject areas and then, after February half term, the children will begin an awesome Geography unit on natural disasters incorporating Pompeii whilst exploring countries of Europe and major cities, key aspects of mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes and its impact upon human and plant life.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

This term we are focusing on 'People of God. What is it like to follow God? This unit will be looking at the ideology of Christianity.



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## FRENCH

The children will be continuing with learning French this term. They will be learning the French for parts of the body and animal names.

## HOMEWORK

Homework will continue to be set in the children's Learning Logs and, we will begin to allocate some work onto Microsoft teams, on a diversity of subject areas which have been covered in class. Homework will be set on a Wednesday and is due back on the outlined date on the homework sheet or as outlined on Microsoft Teams. Furthermore, it is important that the children are continuing to take pride in the presentation of their work at home on the three selected areas, as outlined in your child's learning log. Spellings will continue to be set and sent home on a Friday after the children have had their spelling focus. Also, your child has been bought the TT Rockstars application which we also encourage them to do at home. Please continue with reading at home and recording of these sessions on our 'track our read', as this snapshot of their reading, will allow your child to achieve a reading token.

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February – Flag Fen. More details will follow shortly.

Finally, if you have any queries or questions then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

Jo Whiting  
Terri Baker  
Linda Ager

Katherine Young  
Jemma Woodley  
Dawn Griggs