



*Park Junior School
Year 3 Newsletter
September - December 2023*

Dear Parents/ Carers

We hope you have had a fantastic summer holiday, have remained safe and well, We would like to welcome you to our first newsletter from the staff of Year 3. We are delighted how quickly the children have settled into Park and immersed themselves into their learning. In this newsletter we hope to inform you of the exciting areas your child will be covering throughout these next two terms leading up to Christmas.

STAFFING

3JW - Mrs Jo Whiting (teacher), Ms Terri Baker (teaching assistant), Mrs Dawn Griggs (teaching assistant) & Mrs Linda Ager (teaching assistant).

3KY - Mrs Katherine Young (teacher) & Mrs Jemma Woodley (teaching assistant) & Ms Laura Love (teacher on a Friday).

ENGLISH

The children follow the National Curriculum for English and will be working on a diversity of fiction and non-fiction genres along with targeted grammar and spelling lessons. We will begin the term by studying a text called 'Goldie Locks and the three bears' by Lauren Child. Then we focus on the book *The First Drawing* by Mordicai Gerstein. During this period, your child will be assessed in all areas of English and after perusal of their assessments, if needed, your child will have the intervention of our phonics programme called, Read, Write Inc. If your child is competent in this area, then they will focus on reading, comprehension and reading fluency. Furthermore, using our levelled scheme called 'Project X', once allocated, these books will be able to go home but will be needed, for focused groups, each school day.

SPELLINGS

Children will have focused spelling lessons with targeted words to learn at home, given to your child on a Friday. The folders containing the practised words, needs to be brought back into school the following Friday. Your child will then participate in spelling test on this day.

MATHS

The children follow the National Curriculum for Maths, and the forthcoming focus area is on 'Number & Place Value'. However, during the terms your child will also visit the areas of number operations, measures, fractions & shape whilst also enhancing their reasoning skills in all these areas. Additionally, your child will participate in focused Maths groups where we will be concentrating on multiplication tables, mental and arithmetic maths skills. Nonetheless, it would be very advantageous for your child, if you could support and practice their number bonds and multiplication knowledge at home as well.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This term Year 3 will have two sessions of PE. Both classes will have P.E. on a Tuesday and a Wednesday. It is paramount for our P.E. lessons that the children attend school **wearing** their **P.E. kit** which should consist of shorts, a white t-shirt, and trainers. Additionally, your child is also permitted to **wear** an **outside P.E. kit** which can be jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt. We also stipulate that children **do not** wear jewellery/watches, etc on these days. 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. This term we welcome Mr Hawkins from Hatton to lead our PE lessons on Tuesdays.

COMPUTING

The children will begin the term enhancing their understanding of the internet through learning about E-safety and using Evolve in conjunction with PSHCE. We will introduce the classes to our computer systems by giving the children their own individual logins and then progress onto fluency typing using the site typing.com during this time, we also explore of the internet and the school website (www.parkjuniorwellingborough.co.uk). Then, the children will focus on digital writing and an introduction to coding through the programme 'espresso'.

PERSONAL, HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATION AND CITIZENSHIP

We will start the term looking at 'Being Me' and a range of transition units to ensure your children are settling in well at Park. Then the children will complete a sequence of units under the scheme of 'Stop, Think & Do'. In addition to these weekly lessons, we also focus greatly on our School Values. The overarching word this year is PARK, and each letter has a meaning which the children will work on. Additionally, they will be able to achieve prizes relating to each letter and theme.

MUSIC

The children will be exploring and learning how to sign the song, 'Let your spirit fly' and participating in the forthcoming Christmas production. More information on this to follow.

SCIENCE

We will be continuing to implement our new approach to teaching Science within our school. The idea is that the children will be revisiting areas of the curriculum through different topics. This should allow your child to know, remember and do more.

CREATIVE CURRICULUM

We start the year with our transition unit called 'Being Me'. This is linked to our PSHCE, Well-being and computing lessons. The children will be exploring, researching, and gathering information about themselves and their new school. Secondly the children, once the transition unit is completed, will begin to explore the history of 'The stone age to the Iron age. After the half term, your child will study the 'Impact on the landscape and settlements'. All these units will be linked heavily to a diversity of subjects including homework, and we hope that these topic themes will be thoroughly enjoyed by the children.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We are focusing on Light and Dark: What do these symbols mean? This topic links to a diversity of religions to enhance the children's understanding of different faiths.

FRENCH

The children will be introduced to learning the French language through language angels. Over the two terms they will focus on Phonetics 1 & 2, & Animals.

HOMEWORK - Learning Log

Homework will be set using a format where the children are able to use create opportunities within their learning logbook. As the children become more confident in computing, aspects of their homework will also go onto the platform 'Microsoft teams. The children will become confident in using this platform, as your child will be given targeted lessons on using this site. The children will have the Learning Log format within their book and on teams, on a specific topic which has been covered in class. Homework will be explained to your child and will be due back in on a specified date.

The children will be expected to complete online tasks and be given 'create opportunities' which can then be brought in or photographed and uploaded to Microsoft Teams. It is important that the children take pride in their homework and presentation of their work at home and work only to the desired time outlined on their learning log timetable.

Additionally, children are required to read at home at least three times a week and hopefully they will be able to read to/with you. We will be using a computer-based recording programme, called 'Track my Read'. Your child will have a QR code to log onto to and record their reading which in turn will give us, their teachers, immediate information on who is reading and as a school, also enables us to work towards our school reading hours. More information on this will follow shortly with your child.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please peruse our class pages on the school website for additional information on latest events, photographs, and examples of your children's work.

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

Warmest regards.

Yours faithfully,

Jo Whiting Katherine Young

Terri Baker Jemma Woodley

Dawn Griggs Laura Love

Linda Ager

