

# Park Junior School

Together We Make A Difference

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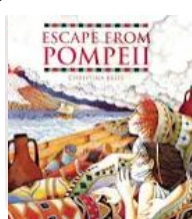
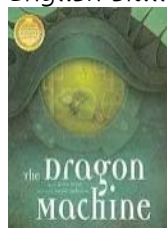
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Welcome to your second newsletter from the staff of Year 3.

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.



## Science

This term the children will be focusing on the area of rocks, soils & fossils. They will discover different types of rocks through exploring their physical properties. They will learn about different formations of rock, and they will become familiar with the terms sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic, using this knowledge to classify a variation of rock samples. The children will also explore a fossil and how it is formed. As well as rocks, children will explore soil samples and become experts in the four different types of soils.

Then in the second term, the children will investigate different types of forces, including magnetism. They will take part in practical investigations to learn which materials are magnetic, how a magnet works and how to compare the strength of magnets.

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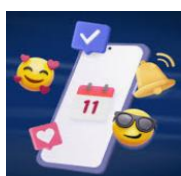
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## Computing

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 and excel. During the next two terms the pupils will 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.



## History & Geography

We start this term with our exciting history unit called the Romans and their impact on Britain. They will develop an understanding of why the Romans invaded Britain and the impact this had on the people and country. They will begin to be able to name key historical figures from this period and explain their role during this period of history. Also, they will begin to understand how the Romans influenced life in Britain and be able to reflect on the changes to the country after becoming part of the Roman Empire.

Additionally, on Wednesday 11th February 2026 – there will be a trip to Flag Fen to consolidate their history learning. More details will follow shortly.

After the half term, your child will then begin Geography and study the UK under the theme of 'From North to South' & how spaces in England are different. 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.



## French

The children will be continuing with learning French these next two terms. They will be learning the French for musical instruments and 'Je peux', I am able to...



## Religion & Worldviews

In the first term the children will focus on the theme of - Diversity within Hindu Dharma: What do Hindus believe and how may they live?

Then after the break they will study the question - Why is Jesus a special person to some religious people? How might this help Christians lead a good life?



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### Music

The children will be exploring and beginning to learn the glockenspiels at level 1, during this term.



### PSHCE

During these two terms in PSHCE, Year 3 will be looking at the themes of 'dreams & goals followed by 'healthy me'. They will be also exploring their online reputations & online relationships through digital citizenship/common sense as well.

### Art & Design & Design Technology

In the first part of the term, your child will be focusing on painting inspired by landscapes

The children will develop their sketchbook use as a means of recording thoughts and ideas on layering colour, pattern, and texture. They will then look at the work of David Hockney to see how interpretation of a scene takes place and will use his techniques to inspire and support their investigation into colour and pattern to create their own landscape painting.



In the second term, the children will be completing a Design Technology unit on the focus of mechanical systems and the area of pneumatics. The children will be exploring pneumatic systems, applying understanding to design and create a pneumatic toy using different types of diagrams.

### Physical Education

This term Year 3 will have two sessions of PE. Both classes will have P.E. on a Wednesday and a Friday. 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.



### Home Learning

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

**Reading** - To encourage reading for pleasure and to support their progress, we ask that the children read as regularly as possible, ideally daily. Please ensure your child records every time they read on the 'track my reading' website. Reading will be checked on a regular basis and children rewarded in assembly on their achievements.

**Homework** - This will be set using a format where the children are able to use creative opportunities within their learning logbook. The children will have the Learning Log format within their book, on specific topics which has been covered in class. Homework will be explained to your child and will be due back in on a specified date.