

Year Three Newsletter – Term 3

Driving Question: How can we prove that the Stone Age had a positive impact on how we live today?

Term 2 Achievements

This term, Year 3 have created outstanding artwork using pop art and pointillism techniques. In addition to this, the children have also designed their own printing blocks using polystyrene and used these to create amazing festive cards. Year 3 have also worked hard on writing senses poetry this term, showing improvements in their choice of vocabulary and use of descriptive language. Furthermore, the children have shown great perseverance and resilience in solving addition and subtraction problems as well as becoming experts on their times-tables!

Maths

In maths, we will be continuing to work on our multiplication and division skills building on our 3, 4 and 8 times table knowledge and using these to solve multiplication and division problems. We will then be applying what we have learnt using written methods to solve both multiplications and divisions of 2-digit and 1-digit numbers. These skills will help us to deepen our understanding and solve reasoning problems. At the end of the term we will be learning all about length and perimeter and appropriate measurements.

At home you could: Practise measuring things including yourself! Please practise your times tables and related division facts. The Times Tables Rock Stars app is a fun way of practising these.

Literacy

This term in Literacy we are focusing on diary writing. We will carefully be picking out the features of a diary, such as emotive language and looking at the format. We will then be writing our own diaries in the role of a Stone Age hunter-gatherer or mammoth.

Later this term, we will be looking at a topic related book ‘Stone Age Boy’ by Satoshi Kitamura. We will then use the book to help us write speech from different characters’ perspectives and we will write a job description for an archaeologist. In addition to this, we will also be working on our reading skills such as retrieving and recording details from the text. Our class novel for this term is ‘The Iron Man’ by Ted Hughes.

At home you could: Practise the Year 3 spelling list, and encourage children to read regularly including using ‘Accelerated Reader’ or ‘Lexia’.

Science

As we are studying The Stone Age, our science this term will focus on rocks. We will be looking at their properties, how they change over time and testing which types of rocks are suitable for different purposes. We will also learn how different types of rock and fossils are formed as well as how soil is made.

Creative Curriculum

This term’s focus subject is history. Year 3 are learning all about The Stone Age. We will consider how Stone Age people communicated, lived and developed, as well as thinking about their diet and

how they acquired their food. We will focus on the life of a hunter-gatherer and how the tools they developed can help us today.

We will be historians and work on chronology, using timelines, as well as analysing information from different sources. We will develop our thinking skills by comparing and contrasting a Stone Age hunter-gatherers life with our own. We will talk about famous Stone Age sites, including Stonehenge and the Lascaux Caves. The children will go on a brand new Stone Age trip to Hillend in Oxford with a day jam packed full of activities!

Physical Education

In PE we will be learning tennis skills, including stance and how to strike a ball precisely and with control. We will learn the rules of tennis and how to use basic tactics to our advantage too. We will also be working on gymnastics this term where we will adapt sequences to different apparatus and compare and contrast these gymnastic sequences. The life-skills focus for this term's PE will be around collaboration and fairness.

Term 3 Dates

- Tuesday 3rd January – Start of Term 3
- Wednesday 18th January – Hillend Trip
- Friday 10th February – End of Term 3
- Monday 21st February – Inset Day
- Tuesday 22nd February – Term 4 Starts

Diary Writing

Hare's Diary- Monday

Well, this has certainly been the WORST day of my life!

I set out early this morning and was at the starting line well before the tortoise. I mean, he is so slow! Of course, by the time he turned up, I had already done 300 press ups and practised my speed sprint start.

Owl began the race and pretty soon I was halfway round. To tell the truth, I wasn't even running very quickly. Anyway, I knew that I was going to win so I lay down at the side of the road for a snooze. Within seconds, my heavy eyelids closed.

I still can't believe it. Whilst I was sleeping, Tortoise carried on! It was SO unfair. Without even looking back, he ran on as fast as a rocket and shockingly he came first. When I finished the race, there was tortoise laying down, basking in the sunlight. HE HAD WON! Oh... the shame!!