

Year 3 Newsletter - Term 3

Driving Question : As an archaeologist, how could you use the finds at a Stone Age excavation site to explain how people lived in that time?

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 has been working so hard this term in their Literacy lessons. They became ambassadors of change for Dashwood school and have worked hard to persuade Mrs Gordon-Weeks to revamp the lunchtime activity rota, making it fun and exciting as well as developing skills and friendships even further. The children took their original ideas and developed them into clear, concise paragraphs and used formal, persuasive language to write their effective speeches. After a discussion about presentation skills, the children practised their speeches and a few children presented to Mrs Gordon-Weeks. They were a little nervous (which is normal) but did a brilliant job. We were delighted to receive an email this week congratulating the children on their fantastic vocabulary and presentations. The children are now very much looking forward to all the exciting opportunities for lunchtimes which will cater to many skills and interests. Well done Year 3 - we are very proud of you.

Furthermore, the children have shown great perseverance and resilience in solving addition and subtraction problems as well as practising 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 to the 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 is history and 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 have a brand new Stone Age Day at Dashwood 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

- **Monday 8th January** - INSET Day (no children in school)
- **Tuesday 9th January** – Start of Term 3 - children return to school.
- **Thursday 11th January** – Stone Age Day (information sent via text. Warm forest school clothing and spares to change into)
- **Friday 9th February** – End of Term 3
- **Monday 19th 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 a tortoise laying down, basking in the sunlight. HE HAD WON! Oh... the shame!!