

## YEAR 3 TERM 2 2009 / 2010

Dear Parents

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We are looking forward to another exciting and productive term.

### 3D

Saturday	-	Music / French
Sunday	-	ICT / Choral
Monday-	-	PE / French
Tuesday	-	Swimming / Library
Wednesday	-	PE

### 3E

Saturday	-	French / Music / Library
Sunday	-	Choral
Monday	-	PE / French
Tuesday	-	Swimming / ICT
Wednesday	-	PE

### 3K

Saturday	-	Music / French
Sunday	-	Library / Choral
Monday	-	PE
Tuesday	-	ICT / Swimming
Wednesday	-	PE / French

## CURRICULUM

### Literacy

As in the U.K. we will be following the Literacy Framework. This is a very structured programme which teaches spelling strategies, spelling conventions and rules; vocabulary; grammatical awareness; sentence construction and punctuation; reading comprehension, and writing composition using both fiction and non-fiction texts. This term we will focus on:

- Traditional stories
- Myths and legends
- Instructions
- Using a dictionary and thesaurus
- Poetry

In line with the Literacy Framework, reading skills will be developed during guided reading sessions. These are concentrated half hour sessions where we work with a small group of children, hearing them read aloud, discussing and drawing attention to vocabulary, plot, punctuation and character development. The children will also have regular opportunities to develop their writing during Big Writing sessions.

## **Numeracy**

We will be following the Numeracy Framework in line with the U.K. It is another carefully structured programme which covers all aspects of numeracy including:

- Place value
- Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- Mental calculation strategies
- Money and 'real life' problems
- Fractions
- Handling data
- Shape and space
- Measures (length, weight, time, capacity)

These topics are revisited regularly throughout the year for revision and consolidation.

A good website for further numeracy activities to support your child's passport target is: <http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/>

## **Science**

We have two topics this term. For the first half of term we will be studying 'Rocks and Soil.' In the second half of term the topic will be 'Magnets and Springs'

## **Humanities**

This term we will study 'Our Locality', looking at land use and learning some mapping skills. We will be visiting the beach in Qurum. During the trip we will sketch landscapes and make notes about how the area has been refurbished recently. In the classroom we will look at old photos to see how the area has changed since the 1970s and discuss the reasons for this change. The history element of our topic will focus on 'How has our school developed?'

## **Art**

Our art topic this term will be linked to the geography work. We will be concentrating on colour mixing and painting landscapes using water colours. We will continue to develop our sketching and drawing skills and link this with a famous landscape artist.

## **DT**

Our DT topic has connections with our science topic 'Magnets and Springs.' The children will be designing and making their own fridge magnets.

## **Personal, Social and Health Education**

The themes for this term's CPSHE and circle time are 'Going for Goals' and 'Good to be me'. These are taken from our whole school scheme of work which is based on the UK Government produced SEAL materials. SEAL stands for Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning. It ensures that all children across the Primary School can learn about the same issues at the same time, in an age appropriate way.

'Going for Goals' focuses on the key aspect of motivation and provides an important opportunity for all children's abilities, qualities and strengths to be valued. As well as setting and achieving goals, Children will be finding out how to begin to take responsibility for their learning and the importance of persistence and of resilience, (bouncing back or maintaining effort through a difficult experience or after a mistake or failure).

The second unit explores feelings in the context of the child as an individual, developing self awareness and helping children realise that it really is 'Good to be

me'. The theme focuses on understanding feelings, and why and how they lead us to behave the way we do-particularly the feelings of being excited, proud, surprised, hopeful, disappointed, worried and anxious. Throughout both units, children will be learning through role play, discussion and playing games, using school assembly time to support classroom activities.

Throughout the term we celebrate the children's achievements both in and out of school through our CLASSY boards. Any exams grades, certificates or medals that your children receive for efforts outside of school are a great addition, so please feel free to send them in.

## **SPECIALIST SUBJECTS**

### **ICT**

This term children will understand that computer simulations can represent real or imaginary situations. They will have an opportunity to read data from a computer simulation, recognise patterns and test predictions. Later in the term children will see that ICT can be used to communicate via e-mails using our school network.

### **Music**

For the first part of this term the children will begin to learn how to read music and play the recorder. There will be certificates they will work towards ranging from Bronze, Silver and Gold. Those children that are already learning an instrument outside school will receive extension work and be encouraged to play for us in class. In the second topic, 'The Class Orchestra', the children develop their ability to use standard notation and play the recorder. They will develop their understanding of how instruments can be used to accompany songs. They explore a variety of accompaniment devices, select appropriate phrases and patterns, and practise and rehearse towards a final class performance.

New musical vocabulary (or 'WOW' words) will be learnt throughout the term.

### **French**

Year Three will be working on the third and fourth units of the scheme 'Rigolo 1'. In Unit 3, 'Mon Corps', they will be learning days of the week, parts of the body and face, and in Unit 4, 'Les Animaux', they will learn about animals and pets, numbers 11 to 20, how to give someone else's name and how to describe someone. They will supplement the interactive material with worksheets to practise the four skills of reading writing, speaking and listening.

## **HOMEWORK**

Homework begins on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January.

Saturday -Tuesday

- Spelling – 10 minutes, practicing the weekly spellings.
- Reading – 10 minutes, at least, with a written comment in the personal organiser.
- Numeracy – 10 minutes, doing practical examples of the numeracy passport task for that week.

On occasions there will be some topic / project homework this term, but during such instances we will reduce the reading and numeracy homework for that week.

Wednesday

There is no homework on Wednesdays; it is always a good idea to do some reading though!

If there is no homework for any reason, there will be a note in the personal organiser. Please do write a comment on the homework if there is anything the children found difficult – or very easy – it is useful to know. Homework will always be reinforcing concepts the children have learnt in class and it should never be a struggle.

**If there are days when children have not had time to complete their homework, please write a note in their personal organisers.**

### **COMMUNICATION**

We value the opportunity to talk to parents. If you do have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher by writing a note in the personal organiser. We will answer you in writing or arrange a time to meet if necessary. It helps, where possible, to arrange a meeting time in advance as we have meetings on several days after school.

Please get in touch with your class teacher if you would be prepared to help in school. There are a wide range of opportunities! We would love to hear from anyone who is willing to give up a regular amount of time each week to listen to readers. We would also like occasional help with art and DT lessons. Please let us know if you have particular skills and interests which you would be willing to share with the children.

### **Tuck Shop**

The tuck shop is open to children in Year Three for first break on a daily basis. This facility is intended to supplement your child's lunchbox and we would ask for your support in monitoring the amount of money brought in to spend. Thank you.

### **Parental Involvement**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have helped in any way during the year, and our particular thanks go to the Class Links, who continue to do an amazing job. Your support, as always, is greatly appreciated.

### **Events This Term**

Mid-Year Reports sent home – 26<sup>th</sup> January

KS2 Sports Day – 27<sup>th</sup> January

**KS2 Enrichment Day – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

Year 3 Trip to Qurum Beach – 14<sup>th</sup> February

Year 3 trip to Wadi Fanja – 7<sup>th</sup> March

Parent Teacher Consultations – 31<sup>st</sup> January and 2<sup>nd</sup> February

KS 2 Swimming Gala – 29<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Egg Competition – 30<sup>th</sup> March

Year 3 fundraising event – after half term (date to be arranged)

Further information about the National Curriculum expectations for each year group can be found at [www.nc.uk.net](http://www.nc.uk.net)

Mr Edwards (Year Leader)

Mrs Harris

Mrs Kidman