

Year 3

Autumn Term 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful summer. Please do take the opportunity to come and say hello to us so we can get to know you all - we are very excited to start a new term. Below is an overview of the forthcoming half term. We hope that you find it useful.

Best wishes,

Miss Peacock (Beech) and Miss Marshall (Ash)

Topics:

| | Autumn |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Topic | Scavengers and Settlers |
| Key Question | What was special about the Stone Age? |

Trips: As part of our PE unit, we are completing a Royal Opera House workshop called 'Chance to dance.' We are very excited to have the opportunity to take the children to the Thameside Theatre to watch a Royal Ballet demonstration. More details will follow shortly. We are also planning to go to the Natural History Museum to support our Stone Age topic.

Literacy: We will be looking at a range of genres across the Autumn term. We will begin by looking at informal and formal letters and then explore non-chronological reports. Later on in the term we will be writing explanation texts, adventure stories and play scripts. We also be carrying out weekly grammar, spelling, punctuation and handwriting lessons. Guided reading sessions will also take place daily.

Maths: This term will be developing our addition and subtraction strategies to help solve problems. We will also be exploring fractions, mass, angles and the properties of shapes.

Science: Our science topics this term are 'How Humans work' and 'Feel the force.' We will be exploring different parts of the human body, the human life cycle, healthy lifestyles and shadows. We will also be looking at friction, gravity and floating. We will be conducting several experiments and carrying out hands-on investigations to support the children's learning.

PE: This term we are very fortunate to be participating in the Royal Opera House 'Chance to Dance' project. We will also be looking at invasion games and developing our ball skills. An emphasis will be placed on the importance of safety and teamwork. Children are expected to have their PE kit in every day. Beech class will have PE lessons on a Wednesday and Friday. Ash class will have PE on a Tuesday and Friday. These days may vary due to weather conditions.

Art/DT: We will be using various art and design techniques to create cave paintings, Stone Age weapons and houses. Later on in the term we will be designing and making Christmas decorations and cards.

RE: Our RE lessons in the first half of the Autumn term will focus on what different people believe about God and why the Bible is important for Christians today. Later we will explore why festivals are important to religious communities and why people pray.

Computing: In ICT in the first half term we will be creating, editing and reviewing animations. In the second half term we will be spotting and correcting performance bugs.

Music: This year we will be using a new music scheme. In the first term we will be developing our performance skills and learning how music can be organised in sequences. We will be listening to, appraising and creating songs using a variety of instruments.

PSHE: In the first half term we will discuss our varying relationships and the way we deal with our emotions. In Autumn 2, we will be learning about the diverse communities in our local area and nationally. We will also be learning about our identity and the importance of respecting all.

French: We will be introducing basic French phrases such as greetings and questions. Children will learn the days of the week, months, colours and numbers up to 20.

Home expectations: Two pieces of homework will be provided on a Friday, one maths activity and one literacy activity, to be returned by the following Tuesday. Spellings will be given out on a Monday and children will be tested on a Friday. Spelling test results will be added together each week and each half term the children with the highest scores will be awarded with a prize. The challenge will be started from scratch each half term.

We encourage all children to participate in the school's reading at home reward scheme. They can read books from school or home - anything that gets them excited about reading! One of our favourite quotes is:

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you will go!"

Dr Seuss

CREATIVE PROJECTS

We encourage you to attempt at least two creative projects but please feel free to do more! These are the projects we would like you to consider based on our topic. If there are any more that you can think of, feel free to have a go!

What was life like during the Stone Age?

- Create a stone age house
- Make stone age weapons out of clay, cardboard or any other material
- Take photographs of you and your friends dressed up as people from the stone age
- Video a clip of 'A Day in the Stone Age'
- Use papier-mâché to create a mammoth or sabre tooth tiger
- Use watercolours to paint a Stone Age man
- Sketch a black and white image of a Stone Age scene using pencils
- Bake cakes in the shape of Stone Age weapons