

HINCHLEY WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Hinchley Wood Primary School

Curriculum Newsletter Year 3 - Autumn First Half Term

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have had a great start to the new academic year and wanted to take the opportunity to tell you about some of the topics Year 3 will be studying in the first half of the autumn term. We hope this information will be useful to you.

Useful tips:

We hand out homework on a Thursday and the children are expected to hand this back in the following Monday. PE kits should come into school on a Monday and will go home with children on a Friday (if necessary).

English:

This half term we will be reading the story *Leon and the Place Between*. We ask that you do not read ahead so that the children can engage with the story together and are able to hone their prediction and inference skills. During our English sessions, we will be focusing on word and sentence types and including description in our writing. As you know, we will be having a magician visit the school to inspire our writing linked to the book.

We ask for your support in ensuring your children read aloud to a parent/carer **every day**, as this will greatly assist their reading and comprehension skills. Please ask your children questions about what they have read in order to test their understanding, for example asking 'Why do you think the main character made that decision?' or 'Can you predict what might happen next? Being able to summarise a piece of text is an important skill. Your child may not be able to do this independently yet, but please do work with them to enable them to learn it. We also work on this in school. The children should use their reading records to make note of their reading on three occasions during the week. They may comment on what they like about the book; what has happened or perhaps something about a character.

Maths

This half term, Year 3 will be looking at place value: understanding numbers to 1,000, ordering numbers, counting in 50s. We will then begin our work on addition: mental addition of numbers up to one hundred, moving onto the formal column method of adding 3-digit numbers. As always, we ask for your support at home to encourage your child to practise their multiplication tables and related division facts. By the end of year 4, the children are expected to know the times tables up to 12 x 12. Each week, part of the children's maths homework will be on Times Tables Rockstars. This website sets up a training schedule as the children progress. We will give out login details for this over the next week.

Science

We begin with the topic of Light in which the children will learn about how light travels; how we see things; how mirrors work and how shadows are made.

Geography

We begin the term with a unit of work on the Climate Zones. We will be focusing on identifying the position and significance of the Equator, the Northern and Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn in relation to climate. The children will learn about the different weather patterns and characteristics within a climate zone.

Computing

This half term we will start with looking at the importance of staying safe online.

RE

During RE our focus will be on 'What does it mean to be a Muslim?'

PSHE

In PSHE we start our Jigsaw topic of 'Being me in my world'. Children will think about our current school and how it helps us learn, their responsibilities as a learner, rewards and consequences, and how to set a good example.

Art

Our Art and Design focus will be on exploring shading using different media to draw natural objects and studying the art work of Rene Magritte. We will also be learning about the processes involved in printing.

PE:

For PE we will be focusing on invasion games, practising the skills of running, throwing and catching. The children will participate in team games and learn basic principles for attacking and defending. We will also be doing gymnastics with a focus on flexibility, strength, technique control and balance skills, moving onto basic sequences.

Music:

In music, we will be looking the song 'Let Your Spirit Fly'. The children will have the opportunity to improve their listening and appraising skills, do some singing and improvisation, leading onto composing their own song.

French

We are very lucky to have a French teacher from Hinchley Wood Secondary School to teach the children French this Year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to make an appointment to see us. We look forward to meeting you at the Parents' Meeting on the 26th.

Yours sincerely,

Year 3 class teachers

Mrs Gatto- Ronchieri and Mrs Oliver; Miss Sills and Miss West