

Greenvale Primary School
Spring Term Curriculum Newsletter
Year 3 – Woodpeckers

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the start of a new and exciting year.

This curriculum newsletter is written to provide parents with information about what your children will be learning. Below is a brief summary of the main topics that will be covered this term.

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| English | <p>We will be continuing to nurture and promote the love of reading and writing. We will be exploring Greek myths and legends, from Pandora’s Box to Theseus and the Minotaur. We’ll also be looking at creating our own non-fiction texts based on our IPC topic ‘Saving the World’.</p> <p>In the second half of the term, we will be using a text called ‘Leon and the Place Between’ as well as a unit on humorous poems. There will be a weekly spellings test on a Wednesday morning and Guided Reading sessions occurring three times a week.</p> |
| Mathematics | <p>We will be continuing to work on all four areas of number. Children will learn how to add and subtract sets of numbers using the expanded column method. Long multiplication will be introduced using the grid method and the children will learn how to divide and multiply numbers by 10. Perimeter will be introduced and time will also be covered during the term. These skills and concepts will be used for problem solving.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">In Spring we will cover –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place value • Long multiplication using the grid method. • Expanded Column addition • Addition and subtraction with money. • Calculating perimeter • Time |
| IPC | <p>Our IPC topic is Saving the World this term, an exciting and important look into the worlds rainforests.</p> <p>In Geography, we’ll be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About where rainforests are in the world • Which rainforest products we use in our everyday lives • About the lives of rainforest people and how they compare with our own • How and why the rainforest is being destroyed • Discovering the ways that people are trying to save the rainforest <p>In Art, we’ll be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About rainforest body art and painting our faces in a similar style • How we can use art to create a rainforest scene <p>In Science, we’ll be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About different rainforest animals and plants • Where different animals and plants live in the rainforest • About colour in the rainforest and how it is used by animals and plants • Why plants have leaves and why they can be different • About the best conditions to grow a plant • About rainforest fruits and seeds |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to grow our own rainforest plant from a seed <p>In Technology, we'll be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to plan and make our own tropical fruit drink <p>In Music, we'll be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to represent a rainforest scene using music <p>In Physical Education, we'll be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to represent a rainforest scene using dance and mime <p>In International, we'll be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How different countries and organisations are helping to save our rainforests |
| ICT | This term we will be focusing on data and how to interpret, display and explore data using computers. |
| PSHE | This term we will be looking at the Values- Sharing and co-operation. We will be discussing these values during PSHE lessons and circle time. |
| RE | We will be taking a look at Judaism – the beliefs and celebrations. |
| P.E | Trampolining – Tuesday Games & Athletics– Thursday afternoon with Mrs Greenwood |
| Spanish | Taught every Wednesday with Mrs Syradd. |
| Music | We will looking at music related to the rainforest and explore music from cultures and civilisations which have lived there. Taught on Thursdays with Mrs Francis. |

During the term, it is likely that at some point you will need to get in contact with a member of staff. We ask that you avoid the mornings as these are when we are usually busy preparing the classroom for the day ahead. However, if it is urgent, please do not hesitate to speak to the teaching assistant when they collect the class from the playground in the morning. Please also make use of the class wallets located directly outside the classroom to leave a note for a member of staff.

If you wish to speak with a member of staff about your child, the best time to do this is directly after school. We do however ask that you try to avoid a Wednesday as this our day for staff meetings. Finally, we do provide parents with our email addresses. Please feel free to write an email to us and we will do our best to get back to you promptly. Please note that emails may not necessarily be checked or responded to immediately but will be checked regularly during the week.

Uniform

At Greenvale, we have very high expectations for uniform. If for some reason your child is unable to wear an item of school uniform, please ensure that your child's class teacher is notified on that particular day.

Reading

It is expected that you will read with your children each night. Please discuss the book with them to help to develop their comprehension skills. Children will participate in guided reading sessions whilst at school and can change their home reading book as appropriate.

We also have our '8 before 8' reading competition. These books are of a range of difficulty for year 3, chosen based on feedback from previous year 3 classes. If you find your child is struggling to read one of the texts, we encourage sharing the reading with a parent or listening to it via audiobook whilst reading along.

Texts include: Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, Mr Gum, Pippa Morgan's Diary and Charlotte's Webb.

Maths

In year 3 children must consolidate their times table knowledge. They must also have a clear and instant recall of number facts such as number bonds to 10 and 20.

Without an understanding of these key facts, your child will find accessing the maths curriculum difficult without securing this knowledge. I would therefore ask that you work with us and ensure that these are practised regularly at home.

Place value is another key area; knowing what each digit in a set of numbers represents.

Please continue to work on these at home with your children. This also applies to those who already have received their gold award.

Homework

Spellings will continue to be issued on a Thursday and tested each Wednesday. Homework will also be set on a Wednesday and is expected to be completed and returned the following Monday.

Please note that it is the child's responsibility for this to be completed and that if there is ever any uncertainty, they need to speak to a member of staff so that we are able to discuss this with them.

Stars are rewarded for the effort that each child has put into their homework. At the end of each half term, the children with the highest number of stars will receive a certificate and will also be named on the school newsletter.

PE

Trampolining – Tuesday

PE – Thursday

Swimming – Thursday AM

For both of these sessions long hair must be tied up and earrings must be removed.

If for some reason your child is unable to partake in P.E, parents will have to provide a note explaining the reasons as to why.

Volunteers

At Greenvale, we are incredibly lucky to have so many parents and volunteers who are able to give up so much time to help out in class. If you are able to help out in class, please get in contact via email so that a suitable time can be arranged.

Items needed

Please can you continue to send your children in with boxes of tissues for use within class. We would also appreciate any donations of recyclable items (toilet rolls, cereal boxes, yoghurt pots, shoe boxes, etc).

Yours sincerely,

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