



Autumn Term 2026 Curriculum Newsletter

YEAR 3

Welcome back to a new school year! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer holiday. We are excited to see you again!

Literacy

Year 3 pupils will explore a rich and engaging range of texts that support reading, writing and spoken language development. Our whole-school explore and engage unit is Hermelin, which will provide a shared starting point for discussion, inference and writing. Children will be encouraged to listen carefully, talk about characters and events, and respond thoughtfully to the story. Pupils will read Mini Rabbit not lost by John Bond. Through this text, they will develop their understanding of story structure, character description and sequencing events. Children will have opportunities to plan and write their own narratives, using expanded vocabulary and clear sentence structures to bring their ideas to life. In poetry, the focus will be on 'Words Are Ours' by Michael Rosen & 'The Magic Box' by Kit Wright. These poems will help children enjoy language play, rhythm and imagery, while also giving them space to experiment with their own poetic ideas. Across the term, pupils will build confidence as readers and writers, while also developing their ability to explain their thinking and share ideas clearly.

After half term, we will be reading a series of lively fables, including The Koala who Could, The Squirrels that Squabbled, and The Lion Inside by Rachel Bright and Jim Field. These texts will help the children explore important ideas such as friendship, perseverance, cooperation, and self-belief, while also deepening their understanding of character, setting, and moral messages. The children will move on to a Non-Chronological Report unit using Incredible Jobs You've (Probably) Never Heard Of by Natalie Labarre. Through this text, pupils will learn how to gather and organise information clearly, use headings and sub-headings, and write in a factual style suited to an informative audience. Across both units, children will build confidence in answering questions, discussing ideas, planning their writing, and improving their work through editing. They will also continue to develop handwriting, spelling, punctuation, and grammar skills, with a growing emphasis on writing with control and purpose.

Mathematics

In the Autumn term, Year 3 children will begin by strengthening their understanding of place value and working confidently with numbers up to 1000. They will explore how numbers are made, represented and compared, while building secure number sense through practical activities and discussion. Alongside this, pupils will develop mental fluency so they can recall key facts quickly and use efficient strategies when solving problems. Children will also be introduced to formal written methods for addition and subtraction, applying their knowledge carefully and explaining their reasoning as they work. This will help them become more accurate and confident with larger numbers. In statistics, pupils will learn to interpret bar charts and tables, using information to answer questions and spot patterns. In geometry, the focus will include angles and right angles, as well as identifying perpendicular and parallel lines, vertical and horizontal lines. Children will also investigate 2-D shape, naming and describing common shapes, before moving on to perimeter, where they will learn how to measure and calculate the distance around a shape. Throughout the term, children will be supported to reason mathematically, explain their thinking and enjoy the challenges of maths.

Humanities (Geography and History)

Year 3 will explore a lively mix of History and Geography topics that help children make connections between the past, the present and the world around them.



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In Geography, children will study Rivers and the water cycle. They will learn how rivers are formed, how water moves through the water cycle and why rivers matter to people and places. This will lead into work on the Distribution of natural resources water and energy, where pupils will begin to understand where these resources are found, why they are important and how people use them in different parts of the world.

In History, pupils will learn about the Victorians and then deepen their understanding through local history and Victorians – Christmas. They will look at what life was like in Victorian times, compare it with life today and investigate how Christmas was celebrated in the past. There will also be opportunities to think about how our local area has changed over time and what evidence can help us find out about people and places from history.

Computing

This term, Year 3 pupils will continue their Computing learning through the Purple Mash Scheme, building confidence, curiosity and practical digital skills in a friendly and structured way. The term's coverage is designed to help children become more independent users of technology, while also developing safe and sensible habits when working online.

Pupils will be introduced to the basics of email, learning how messages are sent and received. They will explore how to write clear, polite emails, add a subject line and recognise the importance of appropriate online communication. This unit also supports understanding of digital safety and the difference between personal and school-related communication. Children will use digital tools to plan routes and follow instructions. Children will plan algorithms and write code that includes angles of turn to create routes for screen turtles, testing them using 2Go. Children will experiment with using the repeat command to make shapes that have 90° and 45° angles. Pupils will then move on to branching databases, where they will learn how information can be sorted and identified using questions with yes or no answers. They will create and use simple databases, developing skills in classification, reasoning and careful decision-making.

Science

Our Science learning in the Autumn term gives children a chance to explore the world around them in a practical and engaging way. We begin by looking closely at Forces and magnets, helping pupils to understand how and why things move, change direction, or stay in place. Children investigate different kinds of forces, including pushes and pulls, and talk about how these forces can affect objects in everyday life. As part of this unit, pupils will test materials and objects to see which are attracted to magnets and which are not. They will also compare the strength of different magnets and begin to notice patterns in their results. Through hands-on activities, children are encouraged to ask questions, make predictions, carry out simple investigations, and talk about what they have found out.

Art & DT

In Design and Technology, the children will take on the challenge to design a bridge. They will look at simple bridge structures, think about what makes a bridge strong, and plan their own ideas. This project will give them the chance to use problem-solving skills, test ideas and make thoughtful design choices.

In Art, the children will look at the history of the Penny Black and find out why it is an important part of postal history. They will explore how stamps have changed over time and what makes them effective as small works of art. Using this as inspiration, the children will create a modern stamp of their own. The Art



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work will focus on developing drawing and printing skills. Children will practise observing details, making careful marks, and using printing techniques to produce clear and repeated images. They will also think about colour, shape and design, and how these features can help a stamp stand out.

Physical Education (PE)

PE in the autumn term gives children a broad and active start to the year, helping them build confidence, coordination and teamwork in a supportive setting. Lessons are planned to develop movement skills, improve control and encourage children to take part with enthusiasm.

The first half of the term focuses on Dance and Multiskills. In dance, children explore rhythm, timing and simple sequences, using movement to express ideas and work with others. This supports creativity as well as physical control. In multiskills, pupils take part in a range of activities that help them practise running, jumping, throwing, catching and changing direction. These sessions are designed to strengthen agility, balance and co-ordination in a fun and active way.

After half term, the focus moves to Tag rugby and Hockey. In tag rugby, children learn how to move into space, pass the ball and work as part of a team. In hockey, they develop hand-eye co-ordination, dribbling skills and an understanding of how to apply simple game rules safely and fairly.

Our PE days are on **Mondays and Tuesdays**. Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit on these days.

Homework

Homework is still topic based and children will have a range of activities to complete over the course of the half term. Some of these will be creative, some will be online, and others may be written tasks.

Mr Bargery (**Class Teacher**)

Miss Kinsella & Miss Benton (**Teaching Assistants**)