

Primary 3 Newsletter (Term 2)



Dear Parent,

The children have returned to school after the October break, full of chat and stories about their holidays, and I have loved hearing about their adventures.

As we move from Autumn into Winter, this newsletter will give you lots of important information about the learning and skills that your child will develop during this busy, second term.

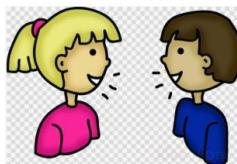
Numeracy and Maths



This term the focus in Numeracy and Maths will be on:

- rounding numbers to the nearest ten
- using number facts and a variety of mental models to work out addition and subtraction calculations
- telling the time using quarter past and quarter to

Listening and Talking



This term, the children will discuss the classroom climate for effective talking and listening. Using their ideas, we will create a visual classroom display which will help the children when they are working on paired and group discussion activities in class.

During our literacy lessons, we will also develop our knowledge of questioning; learning the difference between open and closed questions and about some of the different types of questions that there are – ‘remembering questions’ and ‘understanding questions’.

Reading



Core reading work will continue using the Rigby Star programme while many of our other varied reading activities provided in class this term will be taught through our topic study 'Houses and Homes'. This study will allow the pupils to focus on developing the following skills:

- asking questions about texts before I read and scan for key words to help me locate answers
- finding information from pictures, diagrams, and charts
- recording information I have read and beginning to take simple notes

Accelerated Reader

You may have heard your child talk about Accelerated Reader (AR). Accelerated Reader is a programme designed to help improve children's reading skills and 'accelerate' their reading age over time.

In class, the children have taken a Star Reading Test and the results of this test help direct the children towards books within a certain level/range, most suited to them. This range is known as the Zone of Proximal Development or ZPD.

Pupils then select books to read (within this ZPD) and once each book has been read, pupils complete an online quiz to check their comprehension and understanding of the text. Scores from these quizzes are tracked, allowing teachers to monitor pupil progress in reading. The target for quizzes is to achieve 90% or above to show growth in reading.

Star Reading Tests are carried out 3 times per year to allow teachers to monitor progress.

The children have been given login details for Accelerated Reader and these can be found on the little card containing logins for Glow and Sumdog. On the reverse of this card is a note of the ZPD which shows the level of books that children should choose.

Pupils can access Accelerated Reader quizzes by clicking on the link below:

<https://bit.ly/3vOQiVS>

Another advantage of Accelerated Reader is that pupils can also use some of their own books from their bookshelves at home for this. You can check to see if there is a quiz for each book by visiting the link below:

<https://bit.ly/3GjkVHR>



Room on the Broom

Donaldson, Julia

AR Quiz No. 204664 EN Fiction

IL: LY - BL: 3.7 - AR Pts: 0.5

AR Quiz Types: RP, RV, VP

Rating: ★★★★

The witch had a cat and a very tall hat, and long ginger hair which she wore in a plait. How the cat purred and how the witch grinned, as they sat on their broomstick and flew through the wind.

Above is an example of what you would find if you searched for a book using this link. The letters BL represent the Book Level for this book, which, in this case would be 3.7.

At home pupils can read the AR book borrowed from class and can quiz using the link above. They can also read their own books if they would prefer to. Parents can also read these books to their children as the quiz will ask pupils if they have read it themselves, with an adult, or if the book was read to them. Pupils should answer the quiz questions themselves.

Writing



As we continue to use the Big Write programme for writing, this term the skills we will focus on will be:

- understanding and using the term “planning” and “purpose”
- developing characters describing their physical appearance; their behaviour and actions, thoughts, and feelings.
- creating texts with the correct layout/structure and recognisable features

Interdisciplinary Topic Study



Through the ‘Houses and Homes’ social study, pupils will learn about different types of housing and consider how they meet the social needs of the community. They will learn about the different roles of people involved in the design and construction of a house and in science will explore the suitability of materials used. Pupils will also compare, and contrast houses built in different climates.

PE



Tuesdays and Fridays are our gym days and this term we will focus on ‘foot skills’. PE will be outside where possible and pupils should come dressed for this, wearing jogging bottoms, red polo shirt, school jumper, a waterproof coat and appropriate footwear.

Reading Wallets

It is very important that reading wallets are brought to school **every day** as homework, some letters and important information will be put in here. Please clear these out each week so that your child can find their resources easily.

Diary Dates



- Friday 29th October – Hallowe'en celebrated in class. Pupils can wear age-appropriate costumes to school
- Friday 12th November – Children in Need Day
- Friday 12th November – Learning Journals sent home for parents to see
- Monday 15th November – Start of Book Week. Read, Write Count packs gifted to pupils.
- Friday 26th November – Learning Journals sent home for parents to see
- Friday 10th December – Learning Journals sent home for parents to see
- Tuesday 14th December – Christmas Lunch
- Thursday 16th December – P3/2 and P3 Christmas Party (am)
- Monday 20th December – Carols around the Christmas Tree
- Wednesday 22nd December – Schools close for Christmas holidays

I hope you found this newsletter both informative and helpful. Should you have any queries, worries or concerns about your child, then please do not hesitate to get in touch by contacting the school on the usual number.

Yours sincerely,

Susie Provan

Principal Teacher