

Year 3 Autumn Term Update

A Message from the Class Teachers

Our wonderful Year 3s have made an amazing start to the school year and have settled into life at Blue Coat brilliantly- we are very proud of them all!

The children begin their day with their class teacher, completing maths, writing and reading lessons. They then rotate around the school for their afternoon lessons. This is an excellent opportunity for the children to get to know every member of staff and receive the best teaching in every subject area.

Homework is set for the children on a Monday morning and is due to be completed by 8pm on Sunday evening, however we strongly encourage the children to do this by Friday so that they can enjoy their weekends! Homework expectations so far are as follows:

- 1x Spelling Shed task (4 games to be completed)
 - 1x Maths Shed task (times tables)
- 20 minutes of reading per night (reading books to go home and return to school daily)
5 green dojos are awarded if all homework is completed on time.

We are very excited for the term ahead and look forward to getting to know the children better as we continue our learning journey.

Thank you to all parents/carers for your support.

Mrs Hodgins, Miss Newton and Mrs Corbin.



As a stimulus for writing an instruction text, we have used the delightful picture book *How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth*. Next, we will read *The Silence Seeker*, a moving and thought-provoking story that will provide the basis for writing a diary entry. The term will end with the children writing a detailed setting description inspired by the magical story *Leon and The Place Between*.

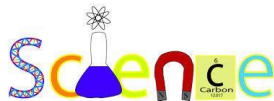
Throughout each unit of work, the children will be taught and supported in using the necessary vocabulary, grammar and punctuation. We will also have weekly spelling and handwriting lessons.

During whole-class reading lessons, we have started reading *Krindlekrax* by Phillip Ridley which is a story full of mystery and intrigue. Will the unlikely hero save the day?

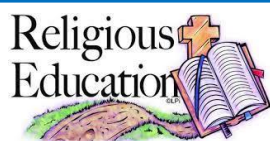


We will begin by focussing on place value as this underpins so many elements of maths. We will then put this knowledge into practice when we move on to develop our understanding of addition and subtraction. The term will end with units on multiplication and division - we will be introducing the children to the 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

We also teach arithmetic on a daily basis which allows us the opportunity to recap and consolidate previous skills whilst also developing speed and fluency.



In Science this term, we will be looking at rocks, soils and fossils. We will learn about how rocks are formed, both naturally and human-made. We will study the properties of rocks and what they are used for in the world. Following this, soils will be investigated and the vital role soils play in life on Earth. When moving onto fossils, we will discover how they are formed and their importance to numerous fields of science.



Beginning with an exploration of the words of the Lord's Prayer, the children will spend time learning the prayers we use in school. Our first main unit will look at the story of Creation and lead into the Fall from Grace and the story of Adam and Eve. We will then consider the ways in which Christians believe that God is with us at Christmas.



In history this term, we will be answering the question, 'What changed in Britain during the Stone, Bronze and Iron Age?'. We will begin by considering the chronology of various time periods within British and world history. We will look at clues left behind by the first people who ever lived in Britain to understand what life was like for them and what skills they had. Finally, we will study buildings from the Stone, Bronze and Iron Age to unravel what they can tell us about the way people lived.



The United Kingdom

The children will develop a sense of where they live within the wider world. They will improve their knowledge of the United Kingdom by interpreting a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes and aerial photographs. We will look at the countries and counties of the United Kingdom and some of the key physical and human features. We will identify urban and rural areas of the British Isles, find out what is special about our National Parks and look at some famous landmarks.



In music this term we will be learning about how to write music down in a simple form. We will focus on long and short sounds. This will be achieved through listening and appraising different songs before playing an accompaniment along with them. There will also be the opportunity to improvise and compose (within given parameters). Each mini unit will also provide the opportunity to perform as a class to enhance performance and ensemble skills.



We will be focusing on our ICT skills in Computing this term, getting used to using Google Classroom as our learning platform and Google Docs, Sheets and Slides for our work. We'll be writing a blog and creating graphs amongst other exciting tasks.



In art this term we are exploring the use of colour and shape in the work of Sean Scully and using this to inspire our own pictures. We will look at mixing colour to create different shades and tones.



The children will be exploring their creative side in a dance unit where they will create a sequence of movements linked together to fit the music. They will also be developing their ball skills which they will then apply to some small sided games.

French

Bonjour et bienvenue à l'école Blue Coat! In French this term the children will first learn to say hello and greet others before learning how to ask how people are and respond to the same question. We will also look at classroom instructions and learn the numbers 1-10 before being able to tell people our age. The children will be taught the phonics "un", "on", "eu" and "au" before we round off the term with the excitement of a French Christmas.



In DT this term the children are designing their own Disneyland based on a story, a computer game, a film, and area of the world or space. As part of the design process children will be thinking about how their land will be set out, what different buildings they are going to have in their land and what key components they need for their land to work. The children are also thinking about how they would like people to feel whilst in their lands.



In PSHE this term, we will begin with our first Jigsaw puzzle piece: Being Me in My World. During these sessions, we will focus on getting to know each other as a class, making decisions as a group as to what behaviours make our school a great place to be, and how we as individuals can impact positively on our school environment. Following this, we will move on to our second puzzle piece: Celebrating Difference. This will give us the opportunity to have discussions about families, friendships and how we can develop strategies for resolving conflict. Throughout the year, the children will be encouraged to develop their speaking and listening skills during Circle Time activities by contributing towards discussions when they feel happy and comfortable to do so.

If you have any concerns, then please do not hesitate to get in touch with the Year 3 team.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Hodgins, Miss Newton and Mrs Corbin