



January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all have a lovely, healthy break and are ready for the term ahead!

Here is an overview for our learning this half term:

Maths: The focus for the start of this half term continues to be **multiplication and division**. So far we have focused on the mental strategies and now we move to focusing on the written methods. The children are learning to count in multiples of 3, 4 and 8 as well as revising 2, 5 and 10 from Year 2. The children need to develop an instant recall of these facts to apply in problem solving activities. The mental maths tests on Friday will link to this and the Weekly Overview will give more detail about the specific times table that we are focusing on and the kinds of questions to expect. The children will be learning more formal written methods to solve multiplication and division questions, but the focus does remain on them understanding, in practical terms, what multiplication and division means and choosing the best method to solve a problem (not always a written method).

English: We have started a fairy tale unit this week using the book 'Poetry Pie' by Roger McGough. We are exploring, discussing, performing and writing some poems, or parts of poems linked to specific poems from this book.

Following this unit we will be moving on to a fiction unit based on '**The Iron Man**' by Ted Hughes. We will be exploring the plot and characters within this text and thinking about the images created by the language used. The children will be writing diary entries, predicting parts of the story and rewriting sections. We will be continuing our learning on sentence and word types and will be learning how to break writing down into paragraphs. The children will be engaged in different writing activities throughout this unit; they will be engaged in a longer writing task at the end of the unit which will help to form part of our assessments. Please see the Weekly Overviews for more detail of our specific learning each week.

Science: We are learning all about 'Light' this term. Our focus areas will include: light sources or light reflectors, shadows and how we protect our eyes.

History: Our history topic this half term is the Indus Valley. We have already introduced this area in our previous geography lessons on rivers when we learnt about the river Indus and the countries it travelled through. In this topic we will explore this ancient civilization, finding out about how these people lived and their beliefs.

Geography: We are learning all about Agriculture this half term in geography. This will support our history learning that we have covered so far this year; learning about different civilizations around the world and how their lives changed when they learnt different farming methods. We will find out about different types of farming now and how farming can change the land.

Spelling: The children will continue to bring home spellings to learn over a two week period. They are tested on these words by the teacher as part of the spelling and handwriting carousel. These words will be high frequency words and are differentiated according to your child's needs.

Trips:

We have now managed to book in some exciting trips and visits for this year. A separate letter will come home shortly with more details about these.

Dates for your diaries:**INSET days:**

Monday 24th January: CLPE Phonics Session 2

Thursday 21st July- fifth INSET day, therefore the last day of school for children will be Wednesday 20th July.

Term dates

Spring Term 2022

Spring 1- Tuesday 4 January - Friday 11 February

Half term holiday - Monday 14 February - Friday 18 February

Spring 2 - Monday 21 February - Friday 1 April

School holiday - Monday 4 April - Monday 18 April

Summer Term 2022

Summer 1 - Tuesday 19 April - Friday 27 May

Half term holiday - Monday 30 May - Friday 3 June

Summer 2 - Monday 6 June – Wednesday 20th July

Health and Well-being

Punctuality – please ensure your child is in the classroom before 9am to ensure a smooth start to the school day. We realise mornings can be tricky for some families, but a punctual and calm start to a child's day makes such a difference to their well-being and ability to focus on their learning. The Senior Leadership Team will continue to monitor punctuality and attendance and you will be asked to attend a meeting if there is persistent lateness or low attendance. We are also monitoring children who are collected late from school as this poses a safeguarding threat. Please ensure your child is picked up at the correct time; it is distressing for children when there is nobody there to collect them and staff are very busy, making it challenging to look after any late pickups.

Children should only have water in their water bottles; they should not have flavoured water that contains sugar. Junior children should only have fruit or vegetables for a mid-morning snack. Please also ensure snacks do not contain nuts, or nut products, as we have several children with serious allergies.

Any questions please do come and speak to us.

Thanks for your support.

Yours sincerely

The Year 3 team