



November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you had a restful half term break and are ready and raring to go for the busy half term ahead.

## Curriculum

**History** – We are starting a new unit all about another ancient civilisation, Ancient Sumer. The children will be drawing on their knowledge about Ancient Egypt to make comparisons between these two civilizations in terms of where they lived (near rivers), the developments they made and how they wrote and traded.

**Geography** – We are learning about mountains this half term. We will be finding out about what makes a mountain and its features. We will find out about famous mountains and mountain ranges around the world and in the UK.

**Science** – We will be learning about rocks this half term. The children will be comparing and grouping different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties. They will also be learning how fossils are formed.

**English** – We have two units this half term. The first is on fairy tales. The children will be reading/listening to a range of fairy tales to pick out key elements and the key parts. We will learn how to write speech in stories using the different rules. We will also be looking at some fairy tales from different cultures, and looking at alternative fairy tales to some we have read – e.g. ones with different endings, or where they are told from a different character's point of view. The second unit is a poetry unit. We are using the book 'poetry pie' by Roger McGough as our focus.

**Maths** – We will continue to focus on addition and subtraction with numbers up to 1000. We will focus on both mental and written strategies. At the end of the half term we will be starting some learning around multiplication and division. Please do look at the calculation policy on our website also to see how we teach the different strategies, as well as examples. Lots of children are keen to use the written column method for addition and subtraction questions for example but have a tendency to rely on this strategy when it is not always the most efficient.

**Religion and Worldviews** - We will have a Religion and Worldviews day in Year 3 at the beginning of December and spend the day learning about Hinduism.

**Dance** – The Year 3 teachers have been choreographing the dance the children will perform for the play, 'A Tale of Two Scrooges.' We will be dancing to the Ghostbusters theme tune.

**Home learning** - The home learning sheets for maths, English and the wider curriculum are posted on the website. These will give you a clear overview of what we are working on in class with ideas for

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activities, websites to look at and a clear breakdown of the way some of these skills are taught in class. MyMaths will also be updated when we move onto multiplication and division.

### **Trips**

We have our trip to Neasden temple coming up. 3O and 3P will be going on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December and 3R and 3B will be going on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. We are trying to book another for later in the school year.

As always, if you have any questions please do come and speak to your class teacher. We are looking forward to a busy and happy half term.

The Year 3 Team

**Headteacher Leon Choueke**

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