



# Year 3 Newsletter January 2018

## Happy New Year!

A very Happy New Year to you from the whole Year 3 team. We hope you all enjoyed the holidays and had a chance to relax and spend time with friends and family.

This half term, our main focus is on the Stone Age. We will be learning about what life was like during the Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic eras and the important changes that took place at this time.

We will also find out about Stone Age animals and how the discovery of Skara Brae helped archaeologists to learn more about our Stone Age ancestors. We will make links to our English work on Stig of the Dump and our science topic on rocks, fossils and soils.

The children are very enthusiastic about this topic and have already enjoyed drama activities in which they pretended to become a Stone Age tribe.

We will also be continuing to develop the children's artistic skills, using pastels and chinks to create cave art based on the paintings found in the Lascaux caves.

The children always enjoy having visitors to enhance their learning. If you are a Stone Age expert, a geologist, or could contribute to our curriculum in any other way, please let us know. For example, in previous years a parent who was a fashion designer helped the children come up with Stone Age fashion ideas, and another parent brought in their fossil collection to show the children.

We will be having an open day at the end of the Spring term and will look forward to seeing you then so you can see what the children have been working on. Remember to keep an eye on Class Dojo too!

Best wishes,

Nicola Teasdale Rebecca McIntosh Jocelyn Carter  
Rhys Peterson

[www.avenuejuniorschool.org](http://www.avenuejuniorschool.org)

## EMAILING

The children will be learning about email in their Computing lessons this half term. They will be emailing their classmates but we ask that they only use their emails for learning purposes and do not email anyone outside of the school for e-safety reasons. They should also not use their email addresses to sign up accounts for other websites. For your reassurance, use of the email accounts is monitored very carefully by the school.

This would be an ideal opportunity for you to discuss e-safety with them to follow up on the work we will be doing in class. Please contact the school if you would like any advice or information on email and e-safety.

## PE DAYS

3C: Monday and Tuesday

3M: Monday and Tuesday

3T: Monday and Tuesday

3P: Tuesday and Wednesday

Much of our PE provision will be taking place outdoors this half term. Warm PE clothes are essential – adding a hat and gloves even better!

## STIG OF THE DUMP

As part of our work on Stig of the Dump by Clive King, we are planning to show the children the 2002 BBC series so that they can compare and contrast the book and TV version and look at how the story is presented. The series is a PG, so if you would prefer that your child did not watch it, please contact us to let us know.

Year 3 Curriculum Map Spring Term 1 2018

	1	2	3	4	5
English Spoken English, reading comprehension, writing composition	Narrative writing: Stig of the Dump Reading the beginning of Stig of the Dump and looking at how authors create settings effectively.  Using drama to explore ideas around the setting to help us get into the story world and begin to identify with the characters.	Narrative writing: Stig of the Dump Rewrite part of the story, changing it from present to past tense using their grammatical understanding.  Children use their knowledge of Stig and Barney's characters to write about presents that Barney could take to Stig. They will explain reasons for choosing these items based on the text.  Children will write a story imagining that they met one of the Stone Age animals that they have researched.	Recount writing: Trip to the Stone Age Outdoor learning to help children explore the world of the Stone Age, using drama and outdoor activities to create and explore exciting vocabulary. We will also read "Stone Age Boy" and a range of other books.  Children will use the experiences we have had to write a story imagining that we travelled in time to the Stone Age. They will use the key vocabulary they have gained to help them write an engaging and descriptive account.	Non-Chronological Reports: Stone Age Children will research areas of interest to do with the Stone Age. They will make notes to help them remember the facts they have learnt.  They will learn how to use labelled diagrams, photos and captions to explain information.	Non-Chronological Reports: Stone Age Children will work in groups to make information books about the Stone Age. They will each work on a different area and create headings and subheadings for their pages, along with text, pictures and captions.  They will create a contents page, index and glossary for their book, as well as a blurb for the back and an engaging front cover.
Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation	Creating detailed noun phrases using adjectives; beginning to use paragraphs and identify reasons for using them.	Changing verbs from present to past tense; use of paragraphs to help structure writing; plurals; possessive apostrophes.	Developing vocabulary using specific and imaginative nouns and verbs to create effects; use of inverted commas; contractions.	Technical vocabulary; differences between fact and opinion; labelling; proper nouns; bullet points; use of fonts, bold and italic writing.	Question marks; topic sentences to open paragraphs; clear and specific language choices; use of headings and subheadings.
Spelling	Consolidating understanding of vowel digraphs and the different ways these may be spelt, including in homophones.				
Maths	Consolidating understanding of place value. Counting in 4s, 8s, 50s and 100s. Sequences and missing number problem solving using the inverse operation. Addition with place value counters.	Be able to show fractions on a number line and count up and down in steps of $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ . Finding a fraction of a shape. Recognising simple unit fractions. Subtraction with place value counters.	Measuring length to the nearest centimetre, half centimetre and introducing decimal measurements. Finding the perimeter of a simple shape. Multiplication using arrays and times table facts.	Subtraction in a variety of contexts. Beginning column subtraction and solving real life problems.	Learning about acute, right and obtuse angles. Identifying horizontal, vertical, parallel and perpendicular lines. Division using grouping and known facts.
Science Rocks	To explore rocks around us. Becoming a rock detective around the school	To explore and compare different types of rock Handling and looking closely at different types of rock.	To know the three different types of rock (sedimentary, metamorphic, igneous) and to know that rocks change over time.	To plan an investigation to find out the permeability of rocks. Carry out the experiment and plot results on a graph.	Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock.
I.C.C Rockin' and Rollin' Stone Age	Entry Point - guided visualisation exploring the senses of what it was like to live in the Stone Age  Knowledge Harvest - children look at pictures of evidence from the Stone Age and explain what they already know as well as thinking of some 'I wonder' questions.	Placing the Stone Age on a timeline and beginning to understand chronology. Using laptops and books to explore the ancient settlement of Skara Brae. Looking at how Stone Age people lived, what food they may have eaten, and how we can use historical evidence to find out the answers to these questions.	Studying cave paintings and their meanings by looking at photographs and video clips of the famous paintings in Lascaux Caves in France. Creating their own cave paintings based on Lascaux Caves using a range of media.	Looking at Stonehenge. Effect of light on Stonehenge and imagining what it was built for. Pastel work based on Stonehenge, using pastels to create light effects.  Studying Stone Circles and thinking about how they may have been used.	How the introduction of farming changed the way of life in the Neolithic era. Debating whether life was better in the Stone Age or now, and giving reasons for opinions.

Computing Emails	Learn how to logon to school email account. We will focus on e-safety throughout this topic.	Compose and send an email, using email addresses.	Add a suitable subject to an email and add attachments.	Delete and save emails. Use folders to organise emails.	Send emails to more than one person at a time.
R.E Sikhism and the 5 Ks	Engage: Watching a video on Sikhism and coming up with enquiry questions.	Explore: What are the 5 Ks and what might they represent?	Explore: What is the Gurdwara and why is it important to Sikhs?	Evaluate: What have we learnt about Sikhism? Have we answered our key questions?	Express: Create a short film using iMovie explaining key facts about Sikhs that could be shown to other Year 3s.
P.E Invasion Games: Football	Perform dribbling skills with accuracy, confidence and control.	Perform passing skills with accuracy, confidence and control.	Perform passing skills with accuracy, confidence and control.	Develop a broader range of techniques for attacking and defending.	Apply skills learnt in game situations.
Music Play It Again	Pupils discuss what is meant by an accompaniment in music. They listen to different ways in which instruments accompany a song. Pupils sing the accompaniment to 'How doth the little crocodile'.	Pupils learn a song that has a call and response structure. They work out how to play a melody by ear. Pupils select phrases that may be used for an introduction to a song.	Pupils learn to recognise different pulses in songs. They learn to beat different time signatures. Pupils use rhythms of words to create an ostinato.	Pupils reflect on the mood and style of different songs. They choose songs for specific purposes. They present their work to an audience.	Pupils compose a script for a radio jingle. They set lyrics to music and present their work to an audience.
French	Learning how to name different colours in French. (Rouge, orange, jaune, vert, bleu, violet, rose, blanc, gris, noir, marron) Singing songs and playing games to help reinforce learning. We will also look at stories that involve colours, such as "Petit Chaperon Rouge" (Little Red Riding Hood). Learning how to say numbers up to 31 and the names of the months, then putting these together to say when our birthday is. Learning how to say Head, Shoulders, Knees and Feet using the song, and the names for different items of clothing.				
PSHE/Circle Time PATHS	Making good choices – listening carefully to each other.	Using good manners - why are manners important?	Understanding feeling shy and lonely.	Learning about how we can make new friends.	How to deal with feelings of frustration.



# Optional Activities

to support your child's learning

Spring 2018

## Rockin' and Rollin' Stone Age

We will be learning about the Stone Age village of Skara Brae. There is a lot of great information at this website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/learning/primary/skarabrae/>

Why not try making your own Stonehenge using cardboard boxes and modelling materials?

Children could use paint and a sponge to create hand stencils like the ones found in caves. They could hold their hands still in a chosen position while a partner paints round them.



## Reading Ideas

Stone Age Boy by Satoshi Kitamura

Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver (recommended for more confident readers)

The Boy With The Bronze Axe by Kathleen Fidler

How To Wash A Woolly Mammoth by Michelle Robinson and Kate Hindley

Year 3s also recommend Horrid Henry books by Francesca Simon! "They are very funny!"

## Science

### *Rocks and Fossils*

Many children love collecting rocks and fossils and finding out more about them. You could go for a walk at the beach and look for interesting stones, then try to work out what you have found using a library book or the internet.

It is also fun to use plasticine to make "fossils", by pressing a dinosaur toy into a flattened piece of plasticine and looking at the imprint! Test this out with a non-precious toy first to make sure it works well!



## Maths Skills

We will be learning about measurement this half term. If you have a ruler or tape measure you could work together to measure the lengths of different objects around the house. Can you find anything that is exactly 30cm long?

We will also be learning about horizontal, vertical, parallel and perpendicular lines, so you may wish to use this language if you are playing games or drawing pictures. (For example, in a game of Battleships you could talk about whether a ship is vertical or horizontal on the grid.)

Please continue learning times tables as well – these are extremely important and need lots of practice! We are giving out bronze, silver and gold stars at school when children learn each times table.

**If you try out any of these activities, please let us know how it goes! You can share your learning in the reading record book, write or post photos on Class Dojo, or bring things in to show in class.**