



Year 3 Newsletter

Points of Interest

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Forest Schools and Cooking

3PG will be doing Forest Schools and Cooking this half term and should have come home with a letter about this before the holidays.

Although we hope that the weather will be kind for these sessions, warm clothes and water-proofs are essential! The sessions generally go ahead in all weathers.

The school does have a good stock of wellington boots and water-proofs, however it makes life a little easier if children have their own gear.

Homework

Regular reading and times tables practice at home has a major impact on children's learning and progression. There are also a range of other activities and ideas suggested on the Optional Homework document. Take a look!

Welcome Back!

We hope you had a wonderful half term holiday and that you are feeling refreshed and ready to learn! We have got a busy half term full of exciting topics and learning opportunities.

As usual, you can find a more in depth overview of our learning in our half termly curriculum maps. These are emailed out by the office and made available on the school website and Class Dojo.

Walsingham Visit

As part of our RE topic on Christianity and Pilgrimage we will be taking the children to Walsingham. Children will learn why Walsingham is considered an important place by Christians and why many people from all over the world travel to Walsingham each year. The trip will take place on 19th and 20th March. The approximate cost for the trip will be around £10. More information will be sent to you in the coming weeks.

World Book Day and Waterstones Visits

At Avenue Junior School we always love to celebrate special events such as World Book Day. For the first 2 weeks back after half term, children will be learning about story writing and exploring a variety of writing techniques. They will then use these skills by writing their own story, taking part in the AJS 500 word story competition. There will be prizes for the best stories in each year group and for an overall school winner!

As part of our World Book Day celebrations each class will also be going to Waterstones in Norwich. This will give children the opportunity to buy one of the special World Book Day books using their £1 book voucher. Alternatively, they can be given some additional money to buy a different book (most children's books retail between £5-10)

All Year 3 visits to Waterstones will be on **Wednesday 4th March**. 3L and 3PG will be going in the morning whilst 3M and 3R will be going in the afternoon. We always like a few parent volunteers to help with walking the children to the city and to join us for the trip. If you think you might be available to help, please speak to your child's teacher.

PE Kit and School Uniform.

For indoor P.E, children should wear black shorts, white t-shirts and trainers. We suggest that children also have a pair of black jogging bottoms and a jumper to enable us to teach PE outside too! Please ensure that all PE kit is **labelled** as this saves a lot of time hunting for misplaced kit. Children with long hair must have their hair tied back for sport lessons. Children who cannot remove earrings must come to school with medical tape to ensure they do not suffer any injuries whilst playing sport.

Please note that children are ultimately responsible for their PE kit, school jumpers and coats. If children leave an item of clothing on the playground, it is often difficult and time consuming for staff members to find and return it—especially if it is unlabelled. If uniform is **labelled** it makes it much easier to reunite with its owner! Thank you for your understanding.

Parent Volunteers

We are always looking for parent volunteers! Whether this is as a one off or on a more regular basis, it can have a really positive impact on the children we teach. If you think you may be able to help, please speak with your child's teacher or email the school office.

Optional Activities

to support your child's learning

Spring 2 2020

Super Shakespeare: The Tempest

This half term we will be learning about William Shakespeare and his play the Tempest. In the past we have found that the children are very interested in learning more about Tudor times to support their learning about Shakespeare. The Children's Library have lots of great non-fiction books they could read.

Would your children like to draw some costumes and paintings from Tudor times? Some of the outfits in particular have amazing shapes, patterns and colours!

We will be learning about puppets as part of our work this half term. Norwich Puppet Theatre have some amazing productions and workshops throughout the year, that are worth looking at! Alternatively, you might be able to find some interesting videos on the internet. How many old TV shows used to have puppets?

Reading Ideas

As well as learning about the Tempest, we will also have a focus on story writing this half term. Reading new books is a great way to inspire new written ideas! Below are some recommendations of books Year 3 have enjoyed in the past and ones that might inspire and excite your children.

The Goth Girl and Ottoline book series by Chris Riddell

The Creakers by Tom Fletcher

The Wizards of Once by Cressida Cowell

Rooftoppers by Katherine Rundell

Science

Plants and Seeds

With Spring fast approaching we will soon start to see new life appearing across the countryside. This half term child will be learning about plants and their life cycles.


Why not try growing your own plants at home. There are many seeds that grow easily in a small amount of soil or even in some wet kitchen towel or cotton wool! Cress grows super quickly. Lettuce also grows well in small containers.

Have you ever tried putting freshly cut flowers in some food colouring? See what happens and take pictures of the results each day.

Get out in the garden or park and try doing some sketches of some of the beautiful plants and flowers growing!

Maths Skills

We will be learning about fractions this half term, building on the multiplication and division work covered before the half term break. Can you help your children to recognise written fractions and common pictorial representations of these?

e.g. $\frac{1}{2}$ 

There are lots of ways to use fractions within the kitchen. Try looking for some recipes that use 'cup' and 'spoon' measurements as opposed to those using grams or ounces.

We are definitely seeing some improvements with the children's times tables knowledge. Please continue to practice these regularly at home. There are loads of great games online as well as other DIY ideas to try!

Year 3 Curriculum Map Spring Term 2 2020

	1	2	3	4	5
English Spoken English, reading comprehension, writing composition	<p>Story Writing</p> <p>Children will explore the written structure of different well known stories and compare similarities and differences between them.</p> <p>They will learn about building characters using a range of descriptive techniques. They will also learn about scene setting and building the events/action within the story effectively.</p>	<p>Story Writing</p> <p>Children will be taking part in the AJS 500-word story writing competition. They will look to use the techniques discussed in the first week within their own 500 word stories.</p> <p>Teacher and peer feedback opportunities will be given to allow the children time to reflect upon their ideas and redraft sections if necessary.</p>	<p>Shakespeare: The Tempest</p> <p>Introduction to Shakespeare, learning about who he was and when he lived.</p> <p>We will read extracts from the first act and dramatise them, finding out the meanings of any unfamiliar words.</p> <p>Thinking about how stage directions can be used and how to create an atmosphere for the play. Writing the introduction to the play as a piece of descriptive writing</p>	<p>Shakespeare: The Tempest</p> <p>Investigating the characters of Prospero, Caliban and Miranda. Hot seating and other dramatic and dance techniques to explore character.</p> <p>Reading Miranda's speech to Prospero and using context clues to work out the meaning of the Shakespearean language. Identifying how Miranda's feelings are shown and how the weather is described using metaphors.</p> <p>Assessment Week: We will assess the children's reading, spelling and punctuation and grammar test. This will give us a measure of progress over the past term but will also allow us to identify areas of need moving forwards.</p>	<p>Shakespeare: The Tempest</p> <p>We will sequence the story and think about the themes of the play and how these are explored by Shakespeare.</p> <p>Writing a character description or writing in role as a character.</p> <p>Children will think about the characters in the play and how they relate to each other. What is each character's role in the story?</p>
Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation	Co-ordinating conjunctions (For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So). Choosing the correct conjunction to complete a sentence.	Subordinating conjunctions (If, Since, After, When, Although, While, As, Because, Until, Before). Choosing the correct conjunction to complete a sentence and the effect of changing these.	Using a subordinate clause at the beginning of a sentence. Beginning to use commas to mark clauses.	Children will continue to explore using subordinating clauses in different places within a sentence.	Identifying and using prepositions. Creating fun sentences using prepositions and concrete and abstract nouns.
Spelling	<p>Adding the suffixes –er or –est</p> <p><i>Faster, fastest, louder, loudest, quicker, quickest, harder, hardest</i></p>	<p>Adding the suffixes –er or –est (Words containing a double consonant and ending in y)</p> <p><i>Happy, happier, happiest Silly, sillier, silliest Jolly, jollier, jolliest.</i></p>	<p>Adding the suffixes –er or –est (Words with a short vowel sound and consonant)</p> <p><i>Big, bigger, biggest Slim, slimmer, slimmest Hot, hotter, hottest</i></p>	<p>The ee sound spelt ey</p> <p><i>Key, trolley, chimney, turkey, trolley, jockey, money, honey</i></p>	<p>Adding the suffix –ness</p> <p><i>Sadness, illness, goodness, lateness, weakness, happiness, gladness, greatness, politeness.</i></p>
Maths	<p>Number: Fractions</p> <p>Identifying unit and non-unit fractions. Use of correct terminology “numerator” and “denominator”. Counting in tenths and relating to decimals and place value.</p>	<p>Number: Fractions</p> <p>Finding fractions of amounts. Relating this to measurements such as metres, kg, money. Finding fractions of a set of objects.</p>	<p>Measurement: Length</p> <p>Children will explore the concept of millimetres in practical ways. They will convert between mm, cm and m. Children will add and subtract using lengths</p>	<p>Children will have an end of term maths assessment. We will also spend some time going over areas identified through our ongoing assessment in order to consolidate key areas.</p>	<p>Measurement: Perimeter</p> <p>Children will learn the term “perimeter”. They will find the perimeter of simple shapes, and go on to finding missing lengths when given the perimeter. They will also solve problems.</p>

Science Plants and Seeds	Children will learn how plants require sunlight, water and nutrients to survive They will design and set up an investigation to assess how well plants grow in different conditions.	Children will continue the investigation from the first week and record their findings and results.	Children will learn how water is transported through the stem and other parts of the flower.	Children will examine the life cycle of a plant from seed to flowering plant.	Children will learn about different types of seed dispersal and how many of these are adapted to different conditions and environments.
I.C.C The Tempest	Look at examples of different puppets used around the world, in live action or film. How have they been made? Look at historical examples. Record responses.	Locate the different places mentioned in the play. Where might the mysterious island be located? Look at examples of art and clothing from this time period.	Use fabric samples to create mood boards for different characters. What textures and colours suit each character and why?	Combine fabrics, collage and drawing to create 2D puppets to be used in filming. Use painting, pencils or pastels to create scenery as a backdrop.	Learning how to use iMovie on the iPads. How to start filming, identifying the length of a shot, editing footage and text on screen. Experiment with ways of framing images. Children to film their version of The Tempest using scripts and puppets they have created.
P.E Multiskills	Children will be using skills required in many different sports, such as coordination, speed and reflexes. They will carry out a variety of different activities using PE equipment and will aim to improve their fitness as well as the skills required to complete each task well.				
R.E Why do Christians go on pilgrimages to Walsingham?	Enquire: Children will think of questions they would like to find out the answers to, relating to pilgrimages	Enquire: Using pictures and videos as a source of information, children will generate questions about specific places common for pilgrims.	Explore: We will visit Walsingham in order to find out how and why people go there on pilgrimage. This trip will aim to answer many of the questions generated in the first 2 weeks.	Evaluate: Children will look at what they have found out and will be able to explain the different reasons why Christians might choose to go on pilgrimages.	Express: Children create a guidebook for Christians wishing to go on pilgrimage to Walsingham, listing reasons to go and what they can expect on a pilgrimage.
French	Recap of skills Children will recap vocabulary they have learned over the past half term. 'Ca Va'? 'Comment tu t'appelles?'	Recap of Skills Children will recap vocabulary they have learned over the past half term. Numbers 1-10 'Quel age as tu?'	Colours Children will learn new vocabulary linked to the different colours. Rouge, blanc, vere, rose, orange	Numbers 11-20 Children will play a variety of games to learn the numbers 11-20	Using all the vocabulary they have accumulated over the year, children will work together to create short role play conversations where they are able to showcase their knowledge.
Music	Pupils will explore a variety of simple and well known songs that use pentatonic scales. They will try and work out the tune of 'Old McDonald' by ear.	Pupils improvise using a C pentatonic scale. They refine their work by inventing different rhythms for their improvisation	Children will perform at St Andrews Hall as part of the Norwich Music Festival.	Pupils sing two pentatonic songs in groups at the same time. They add an accompaniment to the songs and perform as an ensemble.	Pupils take the lyrics from a poem and set them to music. They match the syllables of the words to different rhythms and use the pentatonic scale to create a melody.
PSHE/Circle Time/ PATHS	Feeling frustrated – what behaviours are OK and not OK? Children will explore a variety of different scenarios and discuss how they may feel/react to the differing situations. They will use drama and role play to explore the concept of frustration further.				