

YEAR 3 Curriculum Blog

Autumn 1 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have all had a fabulous summer break and would like to welcome you and your children to their very first half term in year 3. The following blog is an outline of the curriculum that your children will be studying in the first half of the term and hope that it is useful in keeping you informed and in helping you support your child's learning.

Our topic title for this half term is 'Nurturing Nature' where children we will be exploring plants in science lessons, rainforests of the world in geography lessons and the season of autumn in English.

If you have any questions or need anything clarifying, please don't hesitate to contact us on Class Dojo. We look forward to building a half term full of engaging learning, exciting experiences and wonderful memories.

Best wishes,

Mrs McDonagh, Mr Shields and Mrs McCleallan

English



In English this half term, we will be using the wonderful book 'Wisp - A Story of Hope'. It is a refugee story of extraordinary power and beauty from the Amnesty CILIP Honour-winning author of The Bone Sparrow, Zana Fraillon, and Kate Greenaway Medal-winning illustrator Grahame Baker Smith. The children will be writing their own version from a different character's perspective.

Following that, they will be using the poem 'Autumn is here'. They will have 'Experience Days' where, for example, they will explore autumnal changes and gather rich language to describe autumn. During sentence stacking lessons they will create their very own autumn poems.

Within the former and in dedicated lessons, the children will be taught and practise the statutory spelling and grammar for year 3 as well as consolidating previous learning in KS1. They will also regularly practise handwriting.

***Practise Spelling and grammar using these free online games**

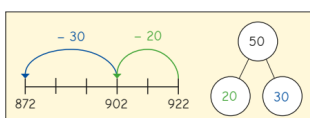
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkbkf4j/articles/zbm8scw>

<https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/lcwc/index.html>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

Mathematics

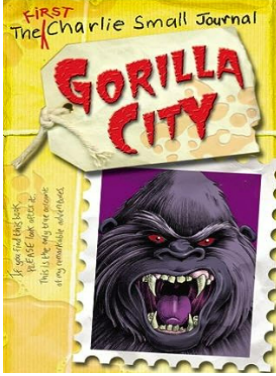
hundreds	tens	ones
3	8	2
300	80	2



We will be focussing on the Place Value of Number, Addition and Subtraction during this half term. This will involve the children representing, partitioning, ordering and finding 1, 10 or 100 more or less than numbers to 1000. They will count in 50's and estimate numbers on a numberline. They will solve reasoning and problem-solving questions. In the addition and subtraction unit, the children will add and subtract 1's, 10's and 100's and add and subtract across 1's, 10's and 100's. They will be encouraged to spot patterns and challenged to solve problems. For example, exploring the effect of adding or subtracting 1s, 10s or 100s to or from any 3-digit number. Children will also explore what changes and what stays the same when adding multiples of 1, 10 or 100, for example: "If we add/subtract 10s, only the tens place value column changes."

***Please log in to TTRS / Numbots to further support maths learning.**

Reading



Our class reading text is The first Charlie Small journal- 'Gorilla City'. No one knows the full story of Charlie Small. At least, not yet. His battered journal was found washed up on a remote, windswept shore. Surely no 8-year-old could have had so many wild adventures! Whilst enjoying the thrilling adventures of Charlie Small the children will be improving their comprehension of texts through VIPERS which is an acronym to aid the recall of the 6 reading domains as part of the UK's reading curriculum. **V**ocabulary, **I**nfERENCE, **P**rediction, **E**xplanation, **R**etrieval and **S**ummarise. The children will be encouraged to ask and answer a range of challenging questions and complete engaging reading-based tasks.

***Please read daily and log all reading on BOOM READER.**

***Check out the Charlie Small sequels on**

<https://www.childrensbooksequels.co.uk/series/name/charlie-small>

Science



The topic this half term is 'Plants'. The children will begin by identifying and describing the functions of the roots of flowering plants and investigating the way in which water is transported within plants. They will identify and describe the functions of leaves in flowering plants and explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal. Also, investigate the ways in which flowering plants disperse their seeds and understand the structure of seeds and their importance as a food source.

Computing



This unit progresses students' knowledge and understanding of technology by focussing on digital and non-digital devices, and introduces the concept of computers connected together as a network. Firstly, they will be introduced to the concepts of input, process, and output and develop their knowledge of input, process, and output and apply it to devices. They will create two pieces of work with the same focus, using digital devices to create one piece of work, and non-digital tools to create the other. Learners will then compare and contrast the two approaches and be introduced to the concept of connections and moving information between connected devices. Finally, will examine each device's functionality and look at the benefits of networking computers.

Geography








The children are going to love investigating the world's most famous rainforests! They will be taught to recognise what a rainforest is and locate the world's rainforests on a map. They will investigate the different layers of life in a rainforest and identify the features that make up a rainforest. They will look in detail at the Congo rainforest, describe and explain the impact of the deforestation of the rainforests. Finally, they will explain the importance of the Amazon Rainforest to our world.

Design and Technology



In this subject, the children will investigate a collection of different shell structures including packaging, using questions to develop their understanding. They will practise making nets out of card, joining flat faces with masking tape to create 3-D shapes and experiment with assembling in nets in numerous ways. They will learn the skills and techniques of scoring, cutting out and assembling using pre-drawn nets and how to use different ways of stiffening and strengthening their shell structures e.g. folding and shaping, corrugating, ribbing, laminating. Also, they will explore the graphics techniques and media that could be used to achieve the desired appearance of the products they will design.

***Please send in empty packets for the children to explore.**

<p>Music</p> 	<p>In weekly Charanga music lessons, year 3 will be developing notation skills. They will learn the song 'Let the spirit fly' by Joanna Mangona which is in an R and B style. They will confidently identify and move to the pulse, think about what the words of a song mean and listen carefully and respectfully to other people's thoughts about the music. They will progress, using a series of challenges, beginning with Sing and Copy Back and Listen and Sing Back. They will progress to 'Play and Improve' using instruments and listening and playing their own answer using two notes: C and D.</p>
<p>PSHE/RSE</p> 	<p>The children will begin the year with the story 'The Hueys In A New Jumper' by Oliver Jeffers. They will explore the concept of everyone being different and everyone being welcomed. Throughout the half term, they will explore families and friendships, safe relationships and respecting ourselves and others. They will learn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ What makes a family; features of family life ✚ Personal boundaries; safely responding to others; the impact of hurtful behaviour ✚ Recognising respectful behaviour; the importance of self-respect, courtesy and being polite
<p>RE</p> 	<p>The unit title this half term is 'What does it mean to be a Christian in Britain today?' Each lesson will a different question that the children will explore.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ How do Christians show their beliefs in the home? ✚ What do Christians do to show their beliefs at Church? ✚ How and why do different Christians use music in worship? ✚ How and why do different Christians celebrate holy communion? ✚ How do Christians make a difference in their local community? ✚ Why do people stand up against injustice because of their religion?
<p>French</p> 	<p>In French lessons, the children will be introduced to new vocabulary which relates to topics which are both interesting and easy for the children to relate to. The children will be encouraged to listen, repeat and engage with the vocabulary through role play, actions, listening activities and games which focus on the skills of reading and writing. The vocabulary will be repeated in future lessons to further help children to retain the knowledge</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>In year 3, PE will take place on Mondays. The PE units for this half term are Health Related Fitness, Throwing and Catching and Gymnastics and Dance. We ask all children to wear LTPS PE kit which is a plain white T shirt and plain navy or black shorts or tracksuit bottoms and black trainers (children are not allowed to wear football kits of any description). For safety reasons, please ensure that all jewellery is removed and hair is tied back.</p>

Ideas to support your child's learning at home linked to our areas of learning this term:

- ✓ Visit local nature parks or forests. <https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/parks-and-countryside>
- ✓ Use this to track nature throughout the year <https://naturescalendar.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>
- ✓ Read daily and log on Boom Reader.
- ✓ Complete TT Rockstars activities weekly
- ✓ Complete weekly spelling homework

- ✓ Find ways of remembering tricky spelling such as using mnemonics such as 'could'-Oh you lucky duck. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AcUoW1ek5zU>

Homework Project – Children are asked to choose one of the projects below to complete.

Please complete and return Homework projects by Friday 13th October. Homework projects will be celebrated and shared in class from Monday 20th October.

- Make a mini greenhouse
- Create a rainforest diorama
- Make a rainforest rainstick
- Visit a local forest such as Thames Chase or a nature park such as Chafford Gorge or Thameside Nature Discover Park-create a poster or PowerPoint describing your visit.
- Research 'Unusual Plants' and create a fact file.
- Research and then create a poster, PowerPoint, fact file about Daintree Rainforest or Tongass National Forest.
- Create a quiz about the Amazon.