



Year 3 - Autumn Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 3!

We have all been impressed by how quickly the children have settled into their new classes and routines. This newsletter will outline all of the exciting learning we have planned for your child this term. The Autumn Term is going to be very busy and will be both challenging and rewarding for all pupils.

English

We are really keen for the children to experience a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction and to ignite a passion for reading. We will be reading stories by Phillip Ridley as well as "Ice Palace" by Robert Swindells. We are also focusing on the children's handwriting and spelling abilities with weekly spelling and handwriting lessons. Your child will have guided reading lessons this year, as well as access to Reading Plus, which will improve their comprehension skills and ignite a passion for reading.



Mathematics

In mathematics, the children will learn about shape, measuring, data-handling and calculating. We will begin with a unit on place value, counting and partitioning, giving the children the opportunity to revise some knowledge from last year. Other units which will be covered are:

- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions
- Measurement
- Geometry and Properties of Shape

Please encourage your child to learn their times tables and practise these at home as they will be tested on these weekly.

'Mathletics' is an excellent website for the children to use in order to practise their mental maths skills and children will be given log in details for this. We also use the 'Times Tables Rockstars' website to support and encourage the children with their times tables. During the week, the children will be practising their knowledge and speed in answering questions.

Science

The BBC website provides excellent background reading and interactive activities for your child's learning in Science. The main topic during this term is plants; how they grow and the function of each part, as well as learning about animals. Additionally, they will be learning about how to keep themselves healthy.



History and Geography



Our main topic for this term is called 'Our World'. It will be cross-curricular, encompassing many of the other subjects e.g. Geography, History, D.T, Music, art and the children will learn about the history of our school and their local area. They will also be

looking at what makes up the United Kingdom and the geography of the major cities.

PSHE

Personal, social, health and economic education is extremely important for all children, especially in the current climate where life has not been what we are used to. During PSHE lessons, we will continue to develop an understanding of the world around us by engaging in rich discussion. We will be continuing our PSHE scheme which, in the Autumn term, will focus on 'Health and Well-being'. This theme covers topics such as, setting goals, healthy eating, physical and mental health.



PSHE

Music

In music, we use the Charanga scheme of learning. The first unit of work is focused around one song: Let Your Spirit Fly - an RxB song for children. In the second half term our music lesson will focus on learning about the language of music through playing the glockenspiel. The learning is focussed around exploring and developing playing skills through the glockenspiel.

Art and DT

Within our art lessons we will be exploring architects and specifically focusing on the technique of sketching. Our lessons will explore the use of shading to create mood and feeling as well as lines, tone and shape to sketch buildings. In DT, we will be experimenting with our cooking skills, implementing our learning on healthy eating and following food hygiene protocols to bake.

Homework

Now your child is in Year 3, they will be expected to complete *homework* on a regular basis. We ask every child at Whitehall School to spend at least 15 minutes reading at home every night, preferably to an adult or older sibling. This regular practise, and the fact that the importance of reading is reinforced at home, is essential. You should also ensure that this reading at home is recorded in your child's planner each night. Your child will be given a Reading Plus login which will provide them with a wide range of texts and comprehension activities appropriate to their reading ability. Using Reading Plus regularly will help to develop your child's reading speed and comprehension skills.

Your child's homework will also consist of:

- A minimum of 15 minutes reading to be recorded in planner (and signed) daily
- Times tables and number facts to be practised regularly at home for our weekly mental arithmetic test
- Weekly spellings issued on Monday and tested on Friday
- Weekly CGP Books: assigned Grammar, Punctuation and spelling task, Comprehension task and Mathematics task.

In addition, our 'Weekend Wonders' initiative will enable greater flexibility and quality family time. For those families who would like their child to complete additional homework tasks, we have an optional extension homework grid where extra tasks are outlined; this is available on the Year 3 page of the school website.



Please encourage your child to complete their homework and speak to us about any problems or difficulties; we are happy to support any children who need extra help with homework and endeavour to make homework a positive part of school life by rewarding effort.

School Uniform and PE Kit

On your child's P.E day, we ask that they come to school in *their P.E kit*. They will not need to wear their school uniform on these days.

The Year 3 PE Days are:

Children should also make sure that long hair is tied back and jewellery should not be worn.

It is important to wear the correct school uniform every day and ensure that appropriate school shoes are worn. We do not permit black trainers.

Snacks

As part of Hillingdon Healthy Schools, we have established healthy rules in our everyday routines. These include children bringing in a **personal water bottle (named)** that contains **water only**. They may use the bottles to sip from to keep them hydrated throughout the day. At snack times, we encourage children to bring a **healthy fruit or vegetable snack**. Part of our healthy lifestyle education is to teach children that what they put into their bodies affects how they function and behave at school.

We are very much looking forward to this term and hope that your children are too. To increase your awareness of vocabulary linked to the topic that your child will be learning, the key vocabulary lists have been attached to this document. As well as this, you will find the key vocabulary list for the term as well as a knowledge mat on the school website within your child's year group page.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress or welfare, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please use your child's Pupil Planner for any messages for the class teacher; alternatively, you can email the Year 3 staff on the follow email address - year3@whitehalljunior.org and we will endeavour to answer any questions as quickly as we can.

We are looking forward to a lovely year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Treanor, Mrs Beceiro, Mrs Tamil

Year 3 Class teachers.

Science Vocabulary

Word	Meaning
diet	The food and drink that a person or animal regularly consumes
Skeleton	The bones of a human or an animal considered as a whole, together forming the framework of the body.
bones	The hard connective tissue forming the substance of the skeleton of most vertebrates, composed of a collage - rich organic matrix impregnated with calcium, phosphate, and other minerals
protect	To provide, or be capable of providing
muscle	A tissue composed of cells or fibers, the contraction of which produces movement in the body
tendon	A cord or band of dense, tough, inelastic, white, fibrous tissue, serving to connect a muscle with a bone or part; sinew
organ	A grouping of tissues into a distinct structure, as heart or kidney in animals or a leaf or stamen in plants, that performs a specialized task
joints	The movable or fixed place or part where two bones or elements of a skeleton join.

History Vocabulary

Word	Meaning
reign	The period during which a monarch is sovereign
war	The waging of armed conflict against an enemy
empire	The domain ruled by an emperor or empress; the region over which imperial dominion is exercised
colony	A geographical area politically controlled by a distant country
politics	The activities and affairs involved in managing a state or a government
monarch	A nation's ruler or head of state usually by hereditary right
society	An extended social group having a distinctive cultural and economic organisation
labour	Productive work (especially physical work done for wages)
candidate	Someone who is considered for something (for an office or prize or honour etc.)
vote	A choice that is made by counting the number of people in favour of each alternative.
protest	A formal and solemn declaration of objection.
parliament	A legislative assembly in certain countries
election	The act of selecting someone or something; the exercise of deliberate choice
trade union	An organised association of workers in a trade, group of trades, or profession, formed to protect and further their rights and interests
technology	The practical application of science to commerce or industry
steam power	Powered by a steam engine
railway	A line that is the commercial organisation responsible for operating a system of transportation for trains that pull passengers or freight.
expansion	The act of increasing (something) in size or volume or quantity or scope

empowerment	The act of conferring legality or sanction or formal warrant
working class	A social class comprising those who do manual labour or work for wages
liberation	The act of liberating someone or something
engine	A motor that converts thermal energy to mechanical work
democracy	A political system in which the supreme power lies in a body of citizens who can elect people to represent them
welfare	Something that aids or promotes well-being
crisis	A crucial stage or turning point in the course of something
unrest	A state of agitation or turbulent change or development
discipline	A system of rules of conduct or method of practice
cane	A stiff switch used to hit students as punishment
dunce	A stupid person; these words are used to express a low opinion of someone's intelligence
education	The activities of educating or instructing; activities that impart knowledge or skill
prosperity	The condition of prospering; having good fortune. An economic state of growth with rising profits and full employment.
servant	A person working in the service of another (especially in the household)
slate	A fine-grained metamorphic rock that can be split into thin layers. Formerly, a writing tablet made of slate.
reform	To make changes for improvement in order to remove abuse and injustices