

# Year 3's January/February Newsletter

Happy New Year, we hope you have all had a fun and relaxing time over the festive period?

The spring term, like every other term, is a very busy time for the children with lots of exciting and interesting topics to learn about. The first half-term's topic allows children to learn about their bodies, particularly the skeleton, muscles and how to eat healthily. Additionally, the children will be learning about the British Isles and our neighbouring European countries, including their traditions & customs, food and climate; amongst other things.

Year 3's art, will be to investigate and practise animal and human still life drawings, using different techniques and considering proportion. We will investigate and learn about the artist Cézanne. Design and Technology will be directed at making healthy food, which links to our science. In French children will be learning about classroom objects, using their knowledge of numbers and colours to describe them. They will also be learning how to ask and say their age. In ICT, the children will use software called PIVOT that allows them to create moving images on the screen of stickmen and sprites, which will support their programming knowledge. In RE children will be learning about spiritual ideas as experienced through the arts, music, architecture and artefacts. PE this term will be squash and gymnastics. Please ensure children bring their PE kits at the beginning of the week.

Our maths topic to begin this term will be statistics, including how to collect, present and investigate data. Later on, we will revisit arithmetic, specifically multiplication and division, as well as continuing with times tables; specifically the 4 and 8 tables. With this in mind please can you continue to practise times tables at home together to reinforce the learning taught in school? Should you be unsure about any of the concepts taught in maths, please come and speak to Mr Pearce-Burton or Mrs Menevse, and we will do our very best to support you. In English, our class read will be *'I was a Rat'* by Philip Pullman. The children will be creating a mixture of fiction and non-fiction pieces of work including fact-files and narratives. Some of this work will be based on geography and some will be science based.

**Reading continues to be a school priority, and as such children will be encouraged to read frequently in school, in all subjects. We would therefore like to ask you to continue to support your child's reading at home by taking time to read along, or listen to them read; and to use Reading Eggs. Remember, the more books they read the more points they collect for their reading Olympiad. As the children move-up the colour bands, it becomes more about the comprehension and their ability to understand and talk about what they have read. It is vital that children understand and can talk about the text on the page. The more a child reads the bigger their vocabulary becomes, and their understanding of the world they live in increases; they can then use this knowledge and understanding in their writing. It doesn't have to be their school book, a library book/book from home, magazine, comic or children's newspaper works just as well.**

We continue to learn our year 3 spellings, which can be found on the back of this newsletter. Please continue to practise these spellings at home.

Lastly, Year 3 staff are always ready to chat about any concerns or questions you have about school work or your child's wellbeing. Please feel free to come and talk to us, or arrange a specific time that is convenient for all.

Thank you for your continued support and best wishes for the new year ahead.

The Year 3 team.