

Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term 1

Dear Parents,

Here is some information about the Year 3 curriculum this half term.

Topic: Africa

- Countries, continents: where Africa is placed in the world (link to children's backgrounds)
- Landscapes & Diversity
- Mountains: Focus Mount Kilimanjaro
- African culture
- African music and dance
- Art: Painting African sunset silhouettes
- African animal masks

Literacy

We will be covering these units:

- **Formal letter writing (short unit)** Based upon The Jolly Postman by Janet & Allan Ahlberg, the children will explore letter writing and purpose, including formality. They will plan and write a formal letter of complaint to Goldilocks on behalf of the three bears.
- **Recounts & Diary writing:** The children will explore recounts using the past tense, the first person and writing in chronological order. The children will write a new version of The Diary of A Killer Cat, by Anne Fine, using recount features and complex sentences.
- **Mayor's writing:** We will looking at creative writing for the Mayor's writing competition set by the borough. We will be linking this writing with our topic on Africa.

As with last half term, we will be incorporating spellings into our Literacy lessons and children will be sent home lists of spellings to learn for homework. We also do whole class guided reading daily. We ask that you try to read with your child for at least 10 minutes a day at home and help them complete the activities at the back of their reading record.

When your child finishes their book please complete one of the tasks at the back of their reading record. This will then need to be checked by an adult in their class before they can change books.

Numeracy

Following the National Curriculum the children will:

- Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables
- Write and calculate mathematical statements for multiplication and division using the multiplication tables that the children know, including for two-digit numbers x one-digit numbers, using mental and progressing to formal written methods
- Tell and write the time from an analogue clock including using roman numerals from 1 to X11 and 12 hour and 24 hour clocks
- Estimate and read time with increasing accuracy to the nearest minute, record and compare time in terms of seconds, minutes and hours: use vocabulary such as o'clock, a.m., p.m., morning, afternoon and midnight.
- Know the number of seconds in a minute and the number of days in each month, year and leap year.
- Add and subtract numbers with up to three digits, using formal written methods of column addition and subtraction
- Estimate the answer to a calculation and use inverse operations to check answers
- Solve problems, including missing number problems, using number facts, place value, and more complex addition and subtraction,

The Times Tables challenge will now be twice a week, on Tuesdays and Fridays

