



Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 1

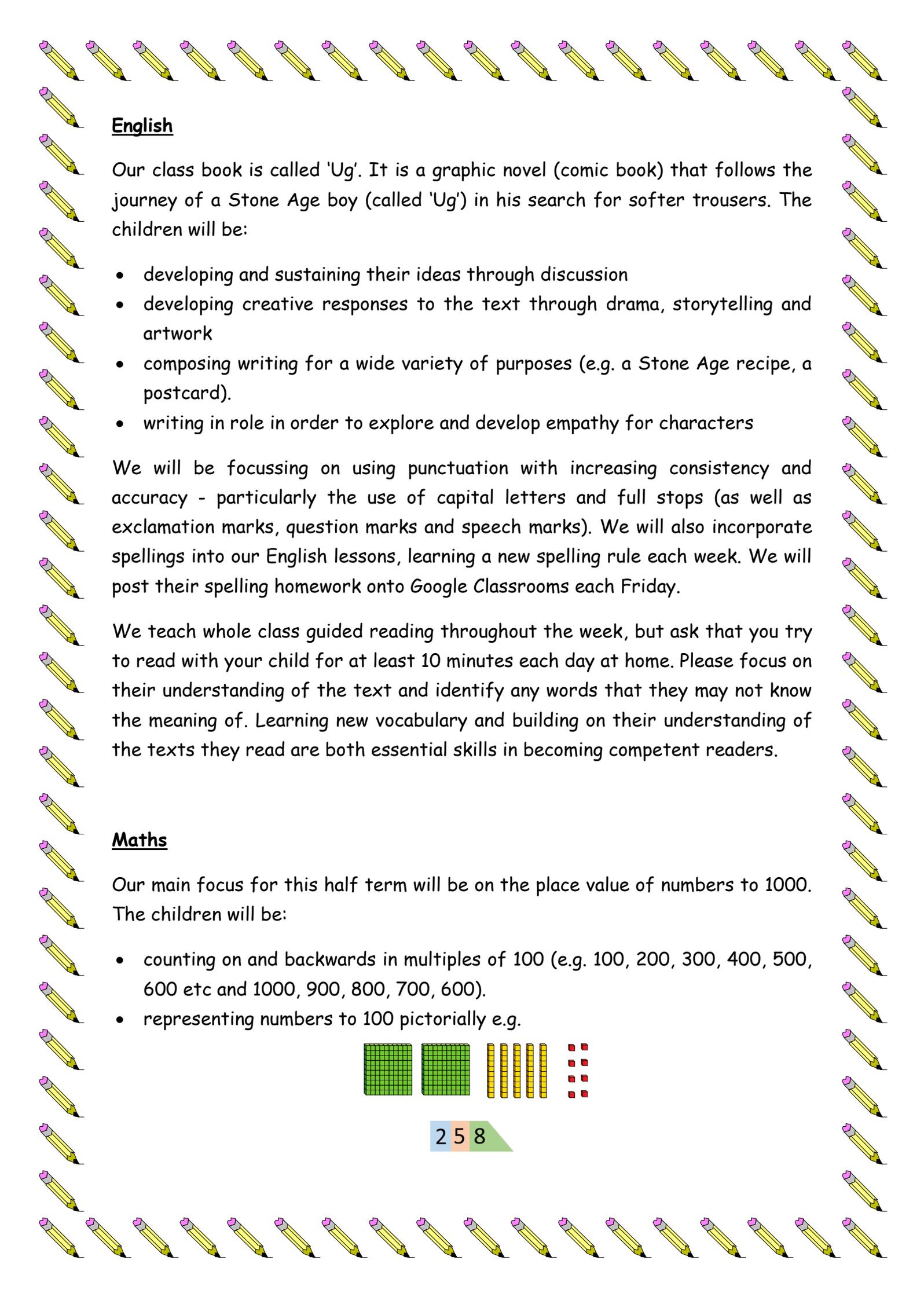
Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another school year and welcome to Year 3. We look forward to working with you and your children this year. They have all worked so hard this week and are settling in well. Here is some information about this half term that we hope you find useful:

RE

Our topic is called 'Beginning with God' and we will be learning about the nature of the God we believe in. Firstly, we will be learning that God is always there, but we might not always see Him terribly well. We will be looking at the four Sources of Revelation and how God 'reveals' Himself to us (through Scripture, traditions at church, Creation and through human experience). The children will learn the meaning of the word 'Monotheism' (that is, a belief in one God) and will be retelling the story of Moses and the Burning Bush, in which God tells Moses "I am who I am" ('I' not 'we'). They will be learning that one God is made up of three parts (the Trinity). They will describe the Trinity using the Sign of the Cross.

Key vocabulary: God, Monotheism, Trinity, Jesus, Holy Spirit, Exodus, revelation, sources, Creation, Human experience, Tradition, Scripture



English

Our class book is called 'Ug'. It is a graphic novel (comic book) that follows the journey of a Stone Age boy (called 'Ug') in his search for softer trousers. The children will be:

- developing and sustaining their ideas through discussion
- developing creative responses to the text through drama, storytelling and artwork
- composing writing for a wide variety of purposes (e.g. a Stone Age recipe, a postcard).
- writing in role in order to explore and develop empathy for characters

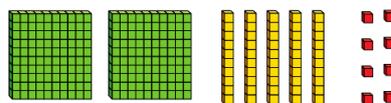
We will be focussing on using punctuation with increasing consistency and accuracy - particularly the use of capital letters and full stops (as well as exclamation marks, question marks and speech marks). We will also incorporate spellings into our English lessons, learning a new spelling rule each week. We will post their spelling homework onto Google Classrooms each Friday.

We teach whole class guided reading throughout the week, but ask that you try to read with your child for at least 10 minutes each day at home. Please focus on their understanding of the text and identify any words that they may not know the meaning of. Learning new vocabulary and building on their understanding of the texts they read are both essential skills in becoming competent readers.

Maths

Our main focus for this half term will be on the place value of numbers to 1000. The children will be:

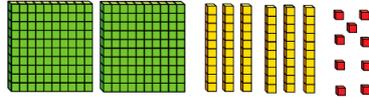
- counting on and backwards in multiples of 100 (e.g. 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600 etc and 1000, 900, 800, 700, 600).
- representing numbers to 100 pictorially e.g.



2 5 8

Maths continued...

- partitioning numbers to 100 e.g.



$$269 = \underline{2} \text{ hundreds} + \underline{6} \text{ tens} + \underline{9} \text{ ones}$$
$$269 = 200 + 60 + 9$$

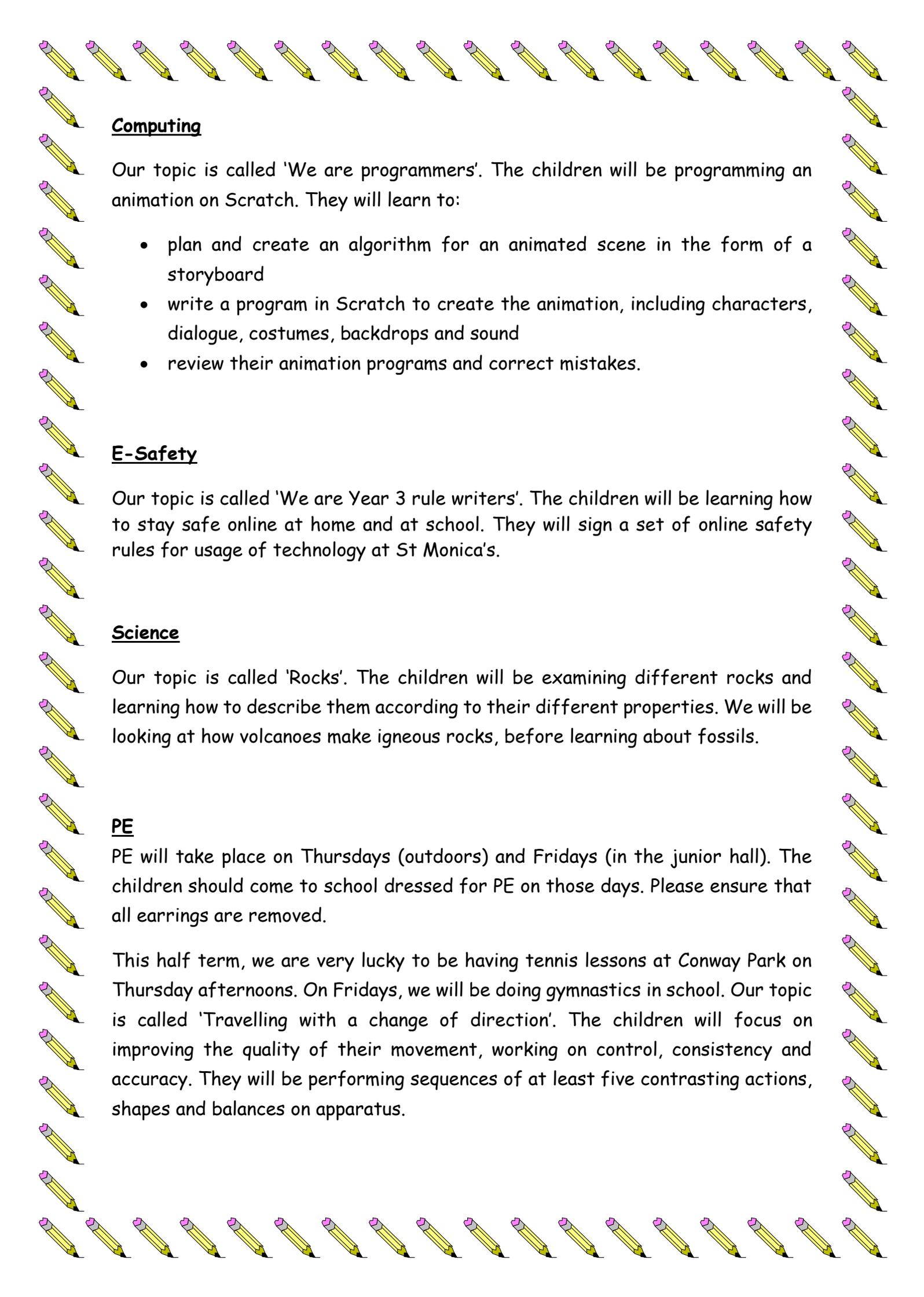
- finding 1, 10 and 100 more or less than a given number e.g. $213 + 1$, $213 + 10$, $213 + 100$
- ordering and comparing numbers using the greater and less than signs ($>$ and $<$).

History

Our topic is called 'Ancient Egypt'. The children will be locating Egypt on a map and learning about an important discovery made by an archaeologist called 'Howard Carter'. We will be looking at how ancient Egyptians lived their lives and what they believed in (including mummification). The children will also be learning about how ancient Egypt changed over time.

Geography

This half term, our topic is called 'Rivers'. The children will be learning about the mighty River Indus (starting in Tibet) and how it changes as it moves along its course (through India and Pakistan). We will be looking at the 'water cycle', before exploring how a river shapes the land. Finally, we will be learning about Britain's longest river, the River Severn.



Computing

Our topic is called 'We are programmers'. The children will be programming an animation on Scratch. They will learn to:

- plan and create an algorithm for an animated scene in the form of a storyboard
- write a program in Scratch to create the animation, including characters, dialogue, costumes, backdrops and sound
- review their animation programs and correct mistakes.

E-Safety

Our topic is called 'We are Year 3 rule writers'. The children will be learning how to stay safe online at home and at school. They will sign a set of online safety rules for usage of technology at St Monica's.

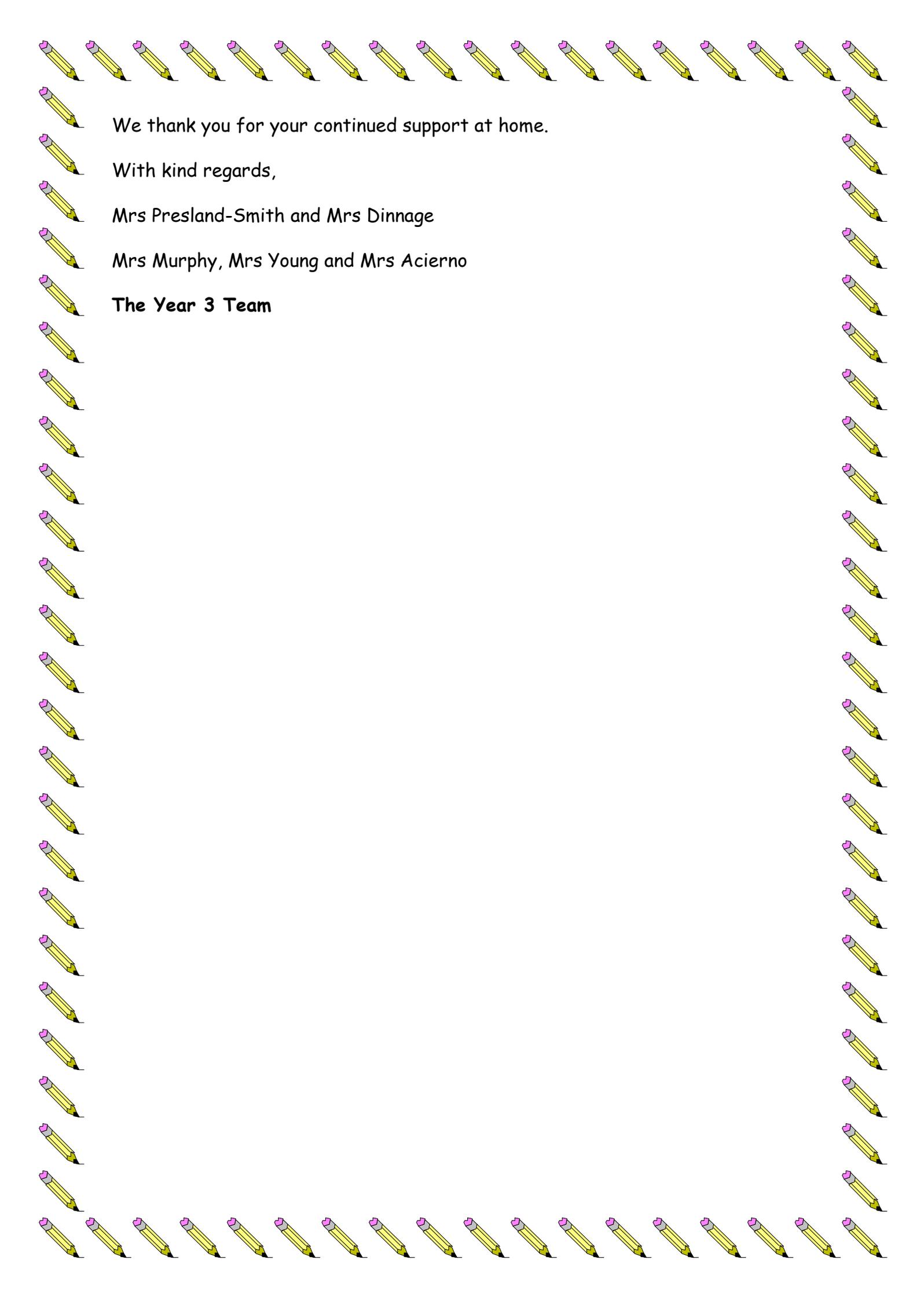
Science

Our topic is called 'Rocks'. The children will be examining different rocks and learning how to describe them according to their different properties. We will be looking at how volcanoes make igneous rocks, before learning about fossils.

PE

PE will take place on Thursdays (outdoors) and Fridays (in the junior hall). The children should come to school dressed for PE on those days. Please ensure that all earrings are removed.

This half term, we are very lucky to be having tennis lessons at Conway Park on Thursday afternoons. On Fridays, we will be doing gymnastics in school. Our topic is called 'Travelling with a change of direction'. The children will focus on improving the quality of their movement, working on control, consistency and accuracy. They will be performing sequences of at least five contrasting actions, shapes and balances on apparatus.



We thank you for your continued support at home.

With kind regards,

Mrs Presland-Smith and Mrs Dinnage

Mrs Murphy, Mrs Young and Mrs Acierno

The Year 3 Team