

English: We are Authors

Writing: This half term, we will be studying 'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura and use this to inspire our own Independent Write about a stone aged child arriving at our school. We will focus on accurate punctuation and co-ordinating and subordinating conjunctions.

Reading: Our class texts will be reading 'Pebble in my Pocket' by Meredith Hooper and 'The Firework Makers Daughter' by Phillip Pullman.

Reading- Reading sessions will focus on developing children's vocabulary and understanding through discussion-based learning. We will explore a range of fiction and non-fiction texts throughout the half term.

Spellings: - your child will be assigned a practice list made up of common exception words and the year 3/4 statutory word list on Spelling Shed on a bi-weekly basis as part of their home learning. Children will complete investigations in class exploring the etymology

RE: We are Philosophers

Our Key Focus: What did God promise to his people? It is the intention of this unit to give pupils an understanding of promises made by God to his people in the Old and New Testaments.

PE: We are Athletes

Outdoor PE/Games: Badminton

Indoor PE: Dance

Children should come to school wearing their smart PE kit on their PE day.

34SF – Monday (Indoor) and Friday (Outdoor)

34SP - Wednesday (Indoor) and Thursday (Outdoor)

34SM – Monday (Indoor) and Friday (Outdoor)

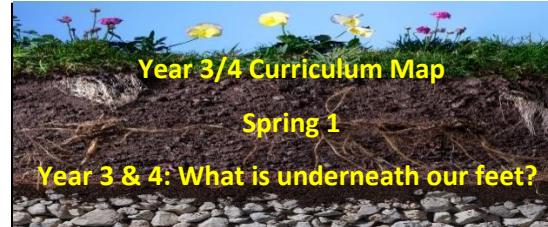
SWIMMING: Swimming will take place in the summer term
– further info to follow

Ask your child:

What have you been today?

How have you been a mathematician or an author today?

What have you enjoyed being today and why?



Enquiry: We are Geographers and Scientists

As Scientists, children will compare and group different types of rocks and explain how fossils are formed. They will also investigate what is in soil. As Geographers, children will study key aspects of volcanoes and earthquakes and how they happen. We will link all this information together to discuss what there is in the layers underneath our feet.

Important dates:

Inset Day – 6th January
Back in school: 7th January
Young Voices Choir O2: 21st January
Trip to Haslemere Museum – 23rd January
Maths workshop and drop in: 5th February
11.2.25 Internet Safety Day
13.2.25 Gymnastics Competition
Parents Evening: 11th and 13th February

Homework

Children should read five times a week, practise spellings as well as practise times tables and mental maths.

Maths: We are Mathematicians

This half term, the children will be developing their understanding and skills related to Multiplication and Division including reasoning and problem solving using these operations. The children will then apply these skills when exploring fractions.

We will then move on to Length and Perimeter – looking at measuring using metres, centimetres and millimetres and how to calculate the perimeter of different shapes

How you can help at home?

It is really important for the children to be able to recall their times tables especially when multiplying and dividing as well as fractions. Please use online games and practical fun ways at home to encourage your child to have these facts at their fingertips!

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/mathsgames/hit-the-button>

Wellbeing: We are Philosophers

Year 3 & 4 will be reading '**On a Magical Day do Nothing**' which will link to our learning about the benefits of nature on our well-being, the importance of rights and responsibilities, balance between online games and other hobbies, and water and rail safety.

French: We are Linguists

In French we are learning new greetings as well as beginning to look at Easter.

Computing: We are Engineers

We will be learning how to develop branching databases on the computer.



Weekly Non-Negotiables

Read five times a week with an adult. Ask an adult to sign your reading record every time you read.

Practise your spellings at least three times a week.

Learn your times tables and associated facts at least three times a week on Times Table Rock Stars or on paper to share with your adults.



Recommended Reads:

The Abominables
Earth's Shattering Events
Under Your Feet
Into The Volcano
The Mountain Rescue Dog

Optional Homework:

Take about a handful of soil from deep in the ground. Scatter it on a piece of white paper and examine all the different things that there are in the soil.

Take photos, write or draw what you have found.

Optional Homework:

Imagine you are living in an earthquake zone. You need to be prepared in order to keep safe and survive a disaster. Use your own ideas and any of your research to consider: What would you need in an emergency? What special items would you like to keep safe in an emergency?

You can use your drawing or writing skills to complete the task.

Optional Homework:

Research and create a fact file about a famous Palaeontologist, for example Mary Anning.

Optional Homework:

Design it: Use cocktail sticks and marshmallows (or play dough) to create buildings to test in earthquake situations. Give the buildings a shake and see how resilient they are. (A large roasting tin of jelly could be the earthquake simulator.)

Take photos of your building before and after the earthquake!

Optional Homework:

When you are at a beach, or somewhere else with many stones, choose three different interesting stones.

Explain why they appeal to you. If you can, research what type of rocks you think they are.