

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 3 Newsletter – Summer Term 2010

We hope that the information in this letter will be useful for you and your child. Our topic this term is 'Weslandia'. Weslandia is a story about a boy who founds his own civilisation in his back garden. He grows his own food crop, creates his own games, alphabet and counting system amongst other things. The book also deals with relationships and how they change over time.

In maths we will continue to work on calculation strategies using the four functions of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. In addition, children will be handling data, securing number relationships and will be introduced to temperature and reading scales.

Our English work will include information report writing, adventures and mysteries, dialogue and plays and a variety of poetic styles. As always, we will be linking our English and topic work closely.

Our topic lends itself to exciting scientific investigations. We will 'measure' the weather in various ways and collate data. We will also compare our weather with that of other parts of the world. We will look at growing plants and how they are used to make different products.

Leading up to half term 3JP will be creating dances in PE based upon our topic and 3BS will be swimming. After half term the classes will swap over. As the weather gets warmer we hope to go out onto the field more and more. The children will practice athletics and net and ball skills. Please send your child with the appropriate clothing and footwear on Mondays for both indoor and outdoor PE to stay in school until Friday.

In our Art/DT and music time, we hope to be exploring how different cultures portray their climate in creative ways. The children will be exploring rhythm, tempo and timbre in their musical compositions. We also hope to make rain sticks, wind chimes or rain gauges for which we would ask that you save the inner tube of kitchen paper rolls or Pringles tubes and empty plastic milk bottles or fizzy 2L fizzy bottles.

Our themes for PSHCE are 'Relationships' and 'Changes'. Initially, the children explore feelings within the context of our important relationships including family and friends. This will lead to work about managing our feelings and empathy. 'Changes' tackles the issue of change and aims to equip children with an understanding of different types of change, positive and negative, and common human responses to it.

In RE we will begin the term looking at Hinduism and then explore food used for celebrations.

At home, please continue to listen to your child read for at least ten minutes every day. This is an absolutely invaluable task, regardless of present ability. Ask them questions about the book, characters, plot, predict future adventures, ask why they chose that particular book, and discuss the author and their writing style.

We will continue to give the children regular spelling tests on a Thursday, with the new spelling being sent home every Friday. Please remember that we expect the children to be able to spell all of these words in their free writing all of the time. Sometimes the children remember to spell the words in the test, but forget when in a different context.

We will also continue to have mental maths every Friday morning. Rapid mental recall is a very large part of Numeracy so if you can give your child a few quick-fire questions at odd moments of the day, it will only help them to improve! Practising 2x, 3x, 4x, 5x, 6x and 10x tables at home supports maths work at school.

Learning Logs continue to be sent home on Tuesday and due in the following Monday.

Our Open Session will be on Tuesday 29th June from 1.30pm – 3pm.

As you can see, we are looking forward to a very busy term!

Yours sincerely

Miss B Bee and Miss J Preece
Class teachers