Curriculum Newsletter
Year 3
Autumn Term 1

In Year 3 we have been getting to know our new classes and learning new routines.

English
We have started the half term by covering the basics of letter formation and joins. We have been so impressed with the effort the children have made and the improvements in presentation.
Before half term, the pupils will use the books The Gruffalo, You and Me, Little Bear, Mini Rabbit Not Lost and Guess What I am? They will use the books to create expanded noun phrases.

Later this half term we will be reading poems and performing them for the rest of the class. We will then be using the topic of 'Volcanoes' as inspiration for writing our own poetry.

In Whole Class Reading we have been using Traction Man to improve our comprehension skills.

Maths
In Maths this half term, the pupils will be working through Number and Place Value. They will use a variety of different representations and methods to secure their understanding of number. After this, they will move onto addition and subtraction and column addition and subtraction. Pupils should continue to work through Numbots at home regularly to help them with their fluency.

How can I help at home?
Please encourage your child to work on Numbots. We would love to have more children completing their Diamond level! You will see a range of different number representations on here, all of which we also use in class. Support your child with column addition and subtraction.

Science
In Science this half term we will be comparing and grouping rocks based on their appearance and physical properties. We will be studying fossils and learn how they are formed. Then we will be investigating different types of soils and the components found in them.

How can I help at home?
Discuss how fossils are made. Watch programmes about fossils

Personal Development
Our unit in Personal Development this term is 'Being Me in My World'. We will be thinking about a nightmare school and what makes a good school.

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In Year 3 we have been naming and sorting rocks. We have looked at slate, granite, sandstone, pumice, marble and chalk.

Geography
We begin the year with the theme of 'Volcanoes'. We will learn about plate tectonics and why volcanoes occur, where in the world we might find volcanoes and specific volcanoes. We will then move onto the structure of volcanoes and different kinds of eruptions and finish by creating an informative text.

Religious Studies
Our RE unit at the start of this year will be looking at where, how and why people worship. We will be looking at this across a variety of religions such as Christianity, Hinduism and Islam

French
Pupils are taught by a secondary specialist and are learning greetings and basic vocabulary.

Design Technology
In DT this half term our unit is 'Eating Seasonally.'
We will be looking at where our food comes from and the importance of eating seasonally. We will then taste some different foods. We will finish the unit off by designing and making our own seasonal tart.

Computing
In Computing this half term we will be starting with e-safety and learning about how to keep ourselves safe online. We will also be checking we know how to log on to Times Tables Rock Stars and Numbots.

Music
Pupils will be developing their beat, rhythm and pulse skills to include understanding and playing in different time signatures. Pupils will get to use percussion instruments to play and interpret rhythm notation, play in polyrhythms and explore both ¾ and 4/4 time.

Physical Education
This half term a ball skills unit of work will be taught by specialist PE teachers from Secondary. In our PE lessons will be looking at the fundamentals and core skills.