



15th September 2022

Dear Year 3 Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Hawley Primary School and welcome to Year 3! I hope that you and your families have had a fantastic summer and that you are all ready for a new school year. The children have settled into being Key Stage 2 pupils very well and I know we are going to have a terrific year ahead of us.

The topics we are studying this term are 'volcanoes and earthquakes' and 'Ancient Egypt'. It will provide the pupils a fantastic chance to discover the world around them, the extreme weather that they see on the news and the importance of the Ancient Egyptian civilisation.

In **English** we will be working on our writing skills to write narratives, diary entries, letters and our own information texts. These will be based on David Wisner's *Flotsam*, Christina Ballit's *Escape from Pompeii*, Beverley Naidoo's *Cinderella of the Nile* and a number of information texts available. We will also be working on improving our grammar, punctuation, handwriting and spelling.

In **Maths** we will be working on our understanding of place value within 1,000, addition and subtraction problems with written methods and introducing multiplication and division.

In **Science**, we will be learning about rocks, fossils and soils in the first half term. During this we shall be comparing/grouping different kinds of rocks depending on their properties, describing the process of fossilisation and recognising where soils come from. In the second half term, we shall be discussing animals, including humans. During these lessons, we will be discovering about the nutritional requirements of living things and the protective ranges of skeletons.

In **Geography** we will learn about human and physical geographical features, focusing on the weather in the U.K but also comparing it to other nations. We will become geographers, carrying out enquiries in our school grounds and local area. We will learn about extreme weather and about earthquakes and volcanoes, including where they are found and why. During the second half term, our focus will include the importance of the Nile to Ancient and modern day Egyptians, and how it shaped the civilisation.

In **History**, during the second half of the term we will be exploring the Ancient Egyptian civilisation and how it grew to be as successful as it became. We will consider the importance of religion, communication, farming and politics in creating an identity for one of the earliest civilizations.

In **Art and DT** we will be recreating examples of Margaret Godfrey's Volcano art, discussing the role of shadufs in Ancient Egypt, recognising hieroglyphics and finally designing/making a pneumatic sarcophagus.

In **Computing**, we will be using laptops and iPads to help us research our topic, complete coding activities and continue to understand the importance of online safety.

In **RE** we will be learning about Sikhism in the first half term, the role of important texts/symbols and significant buildings. For the second half term, the class will find out how Christmas is celebrated across the world. Through our history topic, we will also discuss the importance of the polytheistic religion followed in Ancient Egypt.

Year 3 will have **PE** sessions on **Thursday** mornings and **Friday** afternoons with Coach Elijah and myself. Please ensure that your child arrives at school in the appropriate clothing and footwear in school for these lessons as they will not be changing before or after.

Through **Guided Reading**, pupils will be completing whole class reading lessons where we will be developing our comprehension and reading skills with a range of texts. The children will have opportunities to build upon their love of reading and will also be introduced to new and exciting genres and authors. We will also be continuing with daily class texts together to continue to build a love of reading throughout.

Home Learning

Every **Friday** your child will be given homework via Google Classroom. Each week will include 3 tasks, taking 20 minutes each (literacy, maths and topic). Please participate in their homework but allow the child to take the lead, assisting only if they need explaining/clarification or need something reading. If there is ever a need for clarification or you are having trouble accessing the content, please let me know and I will be more than happy to support.

Homework is due back the following Thursday.

Included in this homework will be spellings taken from the statutory Year 3 and 4 words to learn. We will be having a test every Friday on these words.

Every day the class will complete a particular times table challenge (both multiplication and division facts). Each week the times table changes with a test completed on the Friday. Please see google classroom to find which times tables we are working on that week.

Punctuality

Please remember that children should be entering the school at 8.55am each morning.

Important dates

Thursday 21st September - Meet the teacher presentation in class

Visits and workshops this term:

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| Natural History Museum | 2.10.23 |
| CLC | 21.11.23 |
| Petrie Museum | TBC |
| British Museum | TBC |

Kind regards

Mark Benjamin