

8.9.2023

Years 3 and 4 Autumn 1 Newsletter

FARNSFIELD ST MICHAEL'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome back!

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back into school this week, especially those children joining us in Year 3. All of the children have settled in brilliantly and today we have had a special 'launch day' to get immersed in our new Discover topic for this term, 'What if we never moved?'

In this newsletter you will find information about our new topic, routines and homework, as well as some dates to pop in your diaries!

If you ever have any questions or worries, please email, call or pop in and see us.

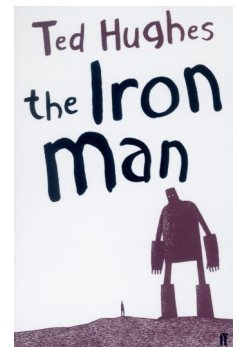
Guided Reading

For the first half term, all of the children will be looking at non fiction texts from our 'Comprehension Ninja' work. We will look at our reading VIPERS and build up some more independent reading skills, as well as practising our fluency when reading aloud. As we will be doing this as whole class groups, you will notice that we won't be writing in each child's reading diary every week. This will start after half term.

After half term, Year 3 will be reading 'The Worst Witch' by Jill Murphy and Year 4 will read 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. The children will continue to develop their VIPERS through these fiction texts, as well as a love of stories!

Reading Vipers

Vocabulary
Infer
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Sequence or Summarise



Spellings

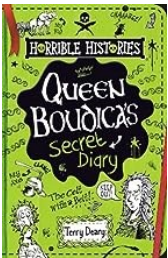
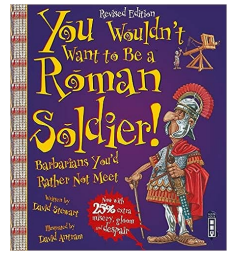
Today and each Friday, the children will bring home their spelling books with a list of ten spellings to be learnt, which are tested on the following Friday. In school we will practise the spelling pattern for that week and appreciate your support for the children learning them at home.

It would also be supportive if your child/ren could also regularly look at the Year 3/4 National Curriculum words. These can be found in their Reading Record.

English

In English this term, we will be reading stories and texts linked to our History topic. These will be used as driver texts for the different genres of writing that we will look at.

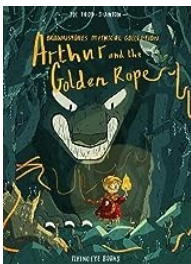
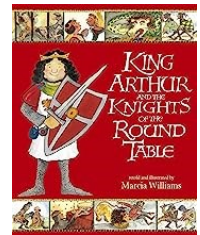
Our first text to support us with our work on procedural texts (instructions) will be 'You Wouldn't Want to be a Roman Soldier!' by David Stewart.



We will then read 'Queen Boudicca's Secret Diary' by Terry Deary, which we will use to learn how to write our own diaries.

Just before half term, we will be having a go at writing and performing our own 'battle cries' based on a video stimulus.

After half term, we will spend a few weeks learning about persuasive texts and read the stories of 'King Arthur' as retold by Marcia Williams.



The rest of the term will be spent looking at 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' by Joe Todd Stanton and we will be writing our own narratives.

Maths

Maths is the only subject that we split the children into year groups rather than classes to teach. Year 3 are taught by Mrs Wilkinson and Mrs Cargill, and Year 4 are with Miss Beaumont, Mr Fry and Mrs Taylor.

All of the children will be looking at place value, addition and subtraction, and multiplication and division. Year 4 will also do a unit on area.

All children will do some arithmetic work in their own classes on a Friday.

The Year 4 children will also undertake their multiplication screener check (MTC) in June. We will do a lot of times tables practice in school with all of the children, you can support at home by ensuring your child/ren do their TT Rockstars homework—see the Homework section for more information.



Homework

Children are expected to practice their spellings every week and to read at least three times a week at home—please can an adult record this in their child/ren's reading diaries.

In addition, on alternative weeks children will be set tasks on SPAG.com or TT Rockstars. This will start next Friday when a piece of work will be set on SPAG.com—your child/ren's login details are stuck inside their reading diary. The following week a soundcheck and some other games will be set on TT Rockstars—again, login details are in the reading diaries. Other TT Rockstars activities will be set every week to keep up fluency in this area.

Staffing

Our teachers in Year 3 and 4 are Mrs Wilkinson in Primroses, Mrs Taylor (Monday & Tuesday) and Mr Fry (Wednesday-Friday) in Bluebells and Miss Beaumont in Peonies. Miss Hope, Mrs Turner, Mrs Cargill, Mrs Brooks, Mrs Hill and Mr Proffitt all support across the classes and Mr Yates will also teach some PE lessons.

We welcome Miss Burroughes, who is a Schools Direct trainee teacher. She will be based in Bluebells but will work with all the children at some point during her year long placement here.

Next week Mrs Taylor is out of school on some training on Monday and Tuesday, so Bluebells will be taught by Mrs Brooksby, who has been teaching at our school for a few years so knows us well.

General Reminders:

Please be reminded that your child's school PE kit should consist of:

- plain white t-shirt/polo-shirt (a change of polo-shirt from their uniform);
- plain black shorts or plain black PE skirt;
- plain black jogging trousers;
- plain black sweatshirt;
- trainers or plimsolls.

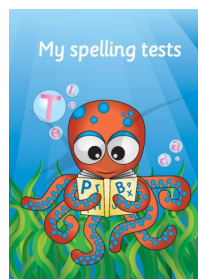
The children are to come to school in their kit on their PE days (Primrose class: Tuesday and Friday; Bluebell class: Wednesday and Friday; Peonies class Tuesday and Wednesday.)



Please only send your child/ren to school with water in their water bottle, **not** squash, juice or anything fizzy.

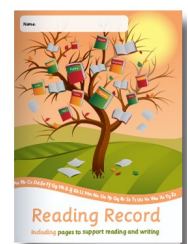
Please be aware that children in KS2 do not get a free piece of fruit for breaktime as they did in KS1. You can either send a snack in with your child/ren or pay for a school provided hot snack.

Please ensure you name **every** piece of your child/ren's school uniform and PE kit – including socks!



Please remind your child/ren to have their Spelling Books in school for their spelling tests on Friday.

Please remind your child/ren to have their Reading Record in school every day and remember it should be signed a minimum of three times per week.



Thank you!

Discover

In Years 3 and 4, our big question this term is 'What if we never moved?' Our History focussed Discover term will look at the invasion and settlement of the Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings in Britain and the legacy we still see today. We will use lots of enquiry and chronology skills alongside learning new facts and knowledge. Our residential to York will enhance this learning.

As well as our History focus, we will also do some Art work and a Science unit on Electricity. This week the children have done some relationships work about friendships and some Geography work about the countries and cities in Europe.

In our wider curriculum areas we will be doing French (a new subject for Year 3), Computing, HeartSmart and PE. In RE we will be looking at the themes of Gospel and Incarnation in Christianity.

Keep an eye out for photos and videos of what we have been up to on the class pages of our website at www.fsmp.org.uk.

Dates for your diaries

Tuesday 12th September - Individual pupil photos

Monday 2nd October 3.30pm - York residential information meeting for parents and children

w/b 9th October - Assessment week (children will do some assessments in their classes, they are very used to this and there is no pressure on them!)

Wednesday 8th - Friday 10th November - York residential

Wednesday 20th December - Year 3 and 4 Christmas party

Thursday 21st December - Year 3 and 4 museum for parents and carers - more information to follow!

York Residential

We are very excited about our upcoming visit to York. We know a few children are unsure about the visit but as the Year 4s will tell you, our residentials are great fun and we all make amazing memories! If you or your child have any questions please ask Mrs Taylor or your child's class teacher.

'Faith can move mountains.' Matthew 17:20