



# Year 3 Newsletter – Spring Term 1



Dear Parents & Carers,

We would like to wish you all a Happy New Year – we hope that everybody had a peaceful and fun-filled Christmas break.

### Key Information:

Due to parent feedback, the school are making changes to the homework. We will continue with weekly spelling and times-tables tests. Please note that some of these may be a repetition of those covered in the first term where we feel that more practice is needed. There are an additional 5 challenge spellings per week, or 5 extra high-frequency spellings that children should be spelling correctly in their daily writing.

If you would like your child to receive homework sheets for English and Maths, please fill in the attached form so we are aware who would like to participate. This homework will be given out weekly on Wednesdays and due in on Mondays. The work will be a reinforcement of learning undertaken in the classroom during that week.

Core project homework continues as normal, linked to our class topic work.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Spelling & Times Tables tests  Weekly Maths and English homework due	PE: Children may come to school wearing their PE kits, and bring their school uniform to change into after the PE lesson	Weekly Maths and English homework given out	Library: Children should remember to bring their book bags ready to change library books	PE: Children should come to school in uniform, they will change into their PE kits after lunch.
 Music	 Gymnastics		 Library	 Gymnastics



**English:** We begin the term looking at the differences in the key features of a narrative and a play script. We use the short story of 'The Giving Tree' by Shel Silverstein as our inspiration and we will work to turn this narrative into a play script. We will be working in groups of three over the two weeks with a large focus on drama. After this, we move on to Roman Myths and legends. We will be reading some well-known myths, including Romulus and Remus, and then we will be writing our own myths. In our writing this term, we focus largely on our sentence structure and beginning sentences in different ways, instead of repeating the same sentence openers. We look at conjunctions, including correlating and subordinating conjunctions and using these to link clauses in a sentence together, or to extend a sentence by adding a clause. Some pupils are continuing to use their knowledge of phonics to carefully sound out words and to punctuation each sentence with capital letters and full stops.

**Destination Reader:** In our reading sessions, we will read a range of text genres, including myths and legends, non-fiction information texts and play scripts. We continue to become familiar with the 7 reading skills in the Destination Reader program to enable us to develop a fuller understanding of what we have read. The 7 skills are: predicting, questioning, clarifying, summarising, making connections, inferring and evaluating. During reading lessons, some children are receiving extra phonics tuition in order to help them to recognise and blend individual sounds. They are using books from a phonics reading program to help them to read and understand the words they have read.

In **Maths** we continue building on our learning in multiplication and division. In multiplication, we build on previous learning of using place value counters, arrays, repeated addition, place value grids and equal groups to multiply. We will start applying our knowledge of the times tables to use a written method to multiply. For division, we apply our knowledge of the times tables to use repeated subtraction to divide, and extend our learning to looking at remainders. After this, we move on to developing our knowledge of money and statistics.

Our **big question** this term is: **Is change a positive thing?**

Our topic work includes:

**History:** The Romans

**Science:** Forces and Magnets

**Computing:** Augmented Reality and Publishing

**Religious Education:** Judaism: What does it mean to be a Jew?

**Music:** children will continue with specialist weekly lessons on the violins and cellos

**Physical Education:** two weekly PE sessions in Gymnastics

**Design and Technology:** we will design and make and evaluate a Roman mosaic

**PSHE:** Dreams and Goals

Please note that parents meetings will take place on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February and we look forward to discussing your child's progress during this time.

Best wishes,

Miss Bingham, Mr Cavendish, Laura,  
Alasma, Tammy, Rita and Sarah.

