

Elephant (Year 3) Autumn Term Newsletter



English



In English our focus will be on further developing our skills in listening and speaking, reading a wide range of texts and developing our comprehension skills to retrieve information to answer questions, sequence events and explain characters and vocabulary.

This term we will be reading *The Stolen Spear* by Saviour Pirotta. This book is linked to our History topic as it is set in Stone Age Scotland. We will be reading and exploring the text, working on our understanding of characters and suspense, before writing a story set in the Stone Age.

We will then be reading 'Counting on Katherine' by Helaine Becker during our Black History whole school project. Please use this as an opportunity to talk about Black History at home as the children often have a lot of questions. Finally towards the end of the Autumn Term we will be reading 'Einstein the Penguin' by Iona Rangeley, linking to our Science work on animals, however please keep this as a surprise for in school.

Maths



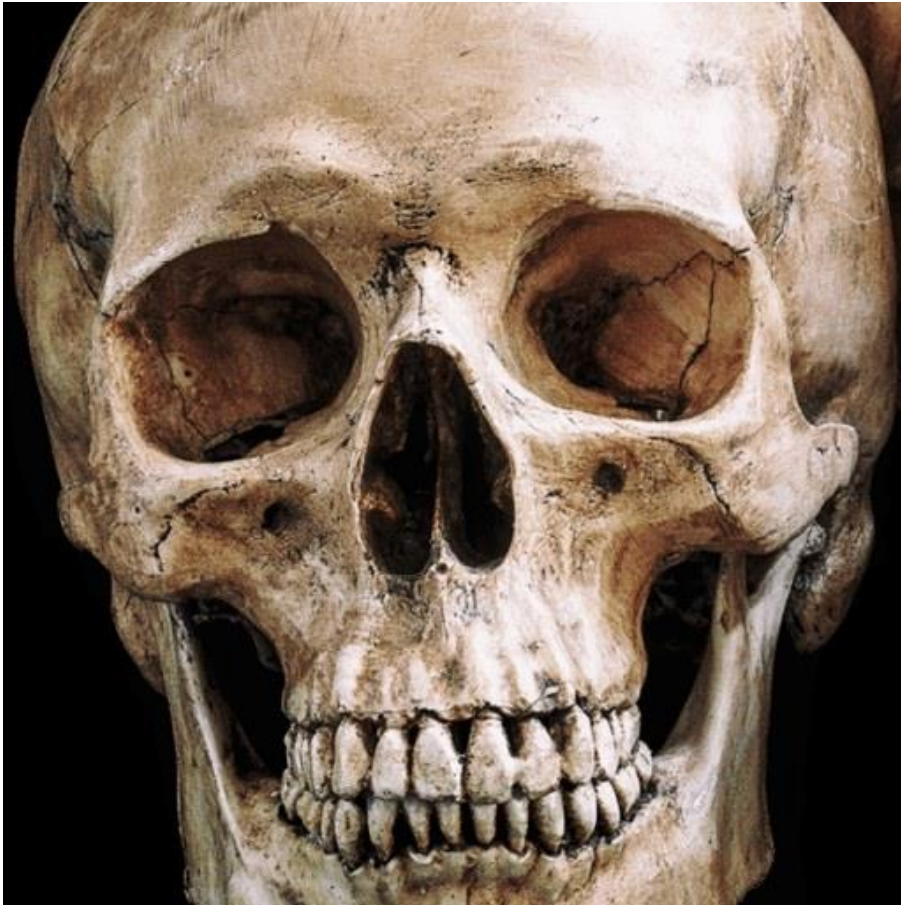
In Maths, our topics will be 'Place Value', 'Addition and Subtraction' and 'Multiplication and Division'

Place Value: We will be finding and representing numbers to 1000 using practical resources, pictorial methods and numbers. We will be comparing and ordering numbers and counting in different groups of numbers.

Addition and Subtraction: We will be adding and subtracting 1, 10 and 100 to a number, adding and subtracting across 10 and 100, exchanging and estimating.

Multiplication and Division: We will be continuing our knowledge of 2s, 5s, and 10s, before looking at the 3, 4 and 8 times table.

Science



Our topic is 'Animal Nutrition and the Skeletal System'

This project teaches children about the importance of nutrition for humans and other animals. They learn about the role of a skeleton and muscles in the human body and identify animals with different types of skeleton. Children will have the opportunity to ask their own questions and conduct research to help find answers including understanding who might be a specialist expert on a subject, before drawing conclusions.

Foundation subjects



History: Our topic is 'Through The Ages'

This project teaches children about British prehistory from the Stone Age to the Iron Age, including changes to people and lifestyle caused by ingenuity, invention and technological advancement.

Geography: Our topic is 'One Planet, Our World'

This essential skills and knowledge project teaches children to locate countries and cities, and use grid references, compass points and latitude and longitude. They learn about the layers of the Earth and plate tectonics and discover the five major climate zones. They learn about significant places in the United Kingdom and carry out fieldwork to discover how land is used in the locality.

Computing: Our topics are 'Computing Systems and Networks - Connecting Computers' and 'Creating Media - Stop-frame Animation'

Children will develop their understanding of digital devices, comparing digital and non-digital devices. Next, children will be introduced to computer networks, including devices that make up a network's infrastructure, such as wireless access points and switches. Finally, learners will discover the benefits of connecting devices in a network.

Children will use a range of techniques to create a stop-frame animation. Next, they will apply those skills to create a story-based animation. This unit will conclude with children adding other types of media to their animation, such as music and text.

Music: Our units are 'Let Your Spirits Fly' and 'Glockenspiel stage 1'

Children will practise and embed their singing and improvisation skills, before we introduce basic composition and notation skills.

The glockenspiel unit will allow children to learn the language of music through playing the glockenspiel.

Art: Our topics are 'Colour Theory' and 'Prehistoric Pots'

This essential skills and knowledge project teaches children about colour theory by studying the colour wheel and colour mixing. It includes an exploration of tertiary colours, warm and cool colours, complementary colours, analogous colours and how artists use colour in their artwork.

This project teaches children about Bell Beaker pottery. It allows the children to explore different clay techniques, which they use to make and decorate a Bell Beaker-style pot.

French: Our topics are 'J'apprends le français' (I am learning French) and 'Les animaux' (animals)

By the end of the unit pupils will have the knowledge and skills to be able to introduce themselves, say how they feel and have a wider appreciation for the country/countries where the foreign language is spoken.

In this unit pupils will learn 10 familiar animals and be introduced to the 1st person singular high frequency verb 'I am' in the foreign language. By the end of the unit pupils will be able to recognise, recall, remember and spell up to 10 animals with their indefinite article. This is one of the first sentence building units where pupils will have the knowledge and skills to be able create short phrases with the verb 'I am' plus the animal nouns and determiners.

RE & PSHE



RE: Our units are focused on Islam: 'Does praying at regular intervals help Muslims in their everyday lives?' and Christianity: 'Has Christmas lost its true meaning?'

In our Islam unit we will be exploring prayer (Salat/Salah) and prayer times, why Muslims might pray, prayer at home and at the mosque, preparations for prayer and the impact of prayer on the life of a Muslim.

In our Christianity unit we will be exploring the meaning of Christmas to Christians including extending kindness and considering why Jesus was born (the incarnation).

PSHE: Our units are 'Being me in the world' and 'Celebrating difference'

In Being Me, we will be thinking about each other and everyone's feelings, making responsible choices and understanding how we can support others.

In Celebrating difference, we will be understanding the differences between us as individuals and our groups, thinking about kind words and how unkind words affect others, and how we show kindness to others.

Homework



Reading: Pupils are expected to read to an adult at home for at least ten minutes, four times weekly. Please ensure this is noted in planners. We check and sign planners once a week, giving Dojo points for regular reading. All 'Big Cat' reading books should be read to an adult. Children can earn up to 4 Dojo points a week for reading their school reading book.

Spellings: Children will have weekly spelling quizzes every **Friday** to check understanding of spelling rules taught in school. Children should practise these through the **EdShed** website, using games to learn the new words.

Times tables: Each week, children will be set games on the **Times Tables Rock Stars** website as homework to complete. The tasks will be set on a Friday and are due the following Friday. This can be in smaller, daily chunks rather than all in one go. Children earn Dojo points for regular times table practise.

Projects: We will be having a half termly project homework linked to our learning in school. This will allow children the opportunity to explore a topic more widely and present their findings in a range of ways. More information will follow regarding this.

Recommended reading



Books set in the Stone Age, Iron Age or Bronze age would support our history learning, such as *The Wild Way Home* by Sophie Kirtley, *Stig of the Dump* by Clive King, *Defenders: Pitch Invasion* by Tom Palmer, *Stone Age Boy* by Satoshi Kitamura and *Live Like a Hunter Gatherer* by Naomi Walmsley.

Below is a recommended reading list for Year 3 from Books for Topics:

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/recommended-reads/year-3/>



Websites to support learning



[BBC Bitesize - KS2](#)

[National Geographic for children](#)

[Primary homework help](#)

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years>

PE



Year 3 have PE on Mondays and Thursdays.

This term we will be doing Gymnastics and Netball.

Pupils are expected to wear full PE kit including:

- T-shirt in the colour of their house
- Red or black shorts
- Plain dark jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt may be worn over PE kit in colder weather as we will be outside
- Trainers

Please mark all items of clothing with the child's name because school cannot accept responsibility for lost jumpers, trainers, etc.

Long hair should be tied back.

Jewellery - including earrings – should be removed or taped over.

Equipment



All pupils are required to have a fully-stocked, named pencil case (with spares!) including:

- Pencils
- Handwriting pens (Not biros)
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Glue stick
- Whiteboard pens
- Scissors
- Coloured pencils

We encourage pupils to take responsibility for their own possessions, reminding them to write in their planner if something has run out. Additional stationery items can be purchased from school at a reduced cost. Please see the website (Parents: Stationery) for prices.

Contacting school



For general class enquiries please email year3@cheddington.bucks.sch.uk however this may not be monitored throughout the day.

For any urgent enquiries please contact the school office.