

Year 3 newsletter

**Term 2
Autumn
2008**

Term 1 was really exciting, the children settled well into their new classes and we have received positive feedback from both children and parents. We hope this term will be just as successful as we head towards Christmas.

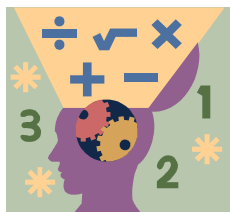
Literacy

This term we will be learning about two different genres, instructions and plays. For both genres we will be exploring the features and layout of each type of text. Your child will write a set of instructions and a play-script and will be given the exciting opportunity to act out their scripts in a group. Nearer the time we will be asking the children to bring in costumes and props that might help 'get into character'. Your child will have weekly handwriting and spelling sessions.

Maths

We will begin the term with revisiting place value, basic counting methods and mental strategies. We will then move on to learning and using formal written methods for addition and subtraction. Throughout the term we will be applying our knowledge and skills to help solve word problems. Having a good understanding of number facts is really important so it's essential that they are learning their times tables at home.

You can support your child at home with practical activities such as telling the time, weighing and measuring and helping them understand the concept of money.



Reading

Each week we work with your child in a small group during guided reading or writing sessions. These sessions are spent reading, responding and interpreting texts that may link to the literacy or topic unit.

We would appreciate your support in regularly hearing your child read their coloured sticker or free reading book and add comments on their progress in their reading record.

We would really appreciate any parental help in hearing children read. Please speak to your child's teacher if you are able to do this.

Topic

Our weather topic continues so keep an eye on the weather! Useful websites such as the BBC and the Met. Office are fun to explore with your child.

In Science we are learning about Moving and Growing. We will be looking at the bodies of humans and animals and planning and carrying out a scientific investigation.

R.E/ SEAL (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning)

The theme for RE will be 'Light at Christmas' in R.E. In SEAL sessions we will be teaching the children how to get on with each other and they will be designing a leaflet or poster to show how this can be done.

P.E.

Last term it was learning some basic rugby skills, passing, catching etc, this term it is football and netball skills. Some children will be doing dance and gymnastics indoors whilst others go swimming.

As the weather is getting colder we would recommend that your child dresses appropriately for outdoor P.E lessons as they will go out in most weathers! A spare pair of socks would be useful to add to their kit in case of wet feet!



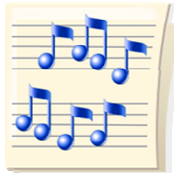
Art

This will be linked to the Christmas theme of Gifts; designing and printing wrapping paper.



ICT

- Research skills linked to Topic Work, especially effective use of Search Engines.
- Combining text & graphics using MS Word
- Practicing typing and spelling skills

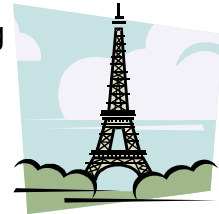


Music

We are continuing to work towards achieving our first Sing Up award so we will be selecting songs from the website to sing in class. As we get closer to Christmas we will be singing Christmas Carols to prepare for our church service.

French

In French we will be continuing to practice our written and spoken French. We will be focusing on being able to say and understand, simple things about ourselves.



How you can help at home

Christmas Party

The Lower Band Christmas party will be on Thursday 18th December. We will be asking for contributions of party food and parental help nearer the time.



- Ask your child about what they have been learning and achieving in school.
- Ask about their **Individual Targets** in writing and maths and how they are progressing towards achieving them.
- Support and encourage your child with their homework. Homework is given out on a Thursday and is due in the following Tuesday.

From the Ur 3 team.....