

Overview of Work

Year 3 Term 2 first half term

ENGLISH:

Reading: One 60-minute Guided Reading session per week. Discussion and written answers based on specific shared texts.

Emphasis on:

- preparing poems and play scripts to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action
- discussing words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination
- recognising some different forms of poetry [for example, free verse, narrative poetry]
- drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence
- predicting what might happen from details stated and implied
- identifying main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarising these
- identifying how language, structure, and presentation contribute to meaning

Writing: Four hours per week based on a specific text and developing an understanding of the following genre:

Fiction: Playscripts – writing and performing

Writing and performing a play, based on the familiar story of Jack and the Beanstalk

- Devising and discussing ideas for playscripts/scenes.
- Development of ideas through improvisation and acting.
- Drafting/writing of scenes, using genre features and form, as identified last week. Attention to present tense stage directions, lines of dialogue and adverbial directions in speech.

Poetry: Free Verse

Read, write & perform free verse – focus on poetry for performance & language play.

Walking My Iguana by Brian Moses

- Investigation of poetry, both free verse and rhyming.
- Observation of performance poetry.

Performance of existent poems, with focus on type of performance, speakers, movement, voice, expression

Adventure stories

Key Texts: Gorilla, Stranded! The Tunnel, On the Run, The Magic Trick.

Grammar: Two 20-minute lesson per week. The grammar focus will feed into all written work throughout the week. Areas of focus:

- Speech marks/Quotation marks/Inverted commas
- Direct speech
- Adjectives
- Setting
- Character
- Opening, build-up, main action, climax, resolution, ending

- Conjunction
- Suspense
- Onomatopoeia
- Alliteration

Using the texts, children explore character and plot:

Infer characters' feelings

Empathise with characters

Determine plot structure

Children will revisit descriptive writing from Term 1, which focusing on settings and characters.

Plan writing by:

discussing writing similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar.

Spelling: one 40-minute lesson per week. Spelling patterns/words will be the focus in all written work throughout a two week block. Children will bring a spelling list home to learn every other week.

- Learn statutory words from the new National curriculum
- To create opposites using *un-*, *dis-* and others
- Homophones and near homophones
- Focus on commonly misspelt words using a range of strategies to learn them.

Handwriting: one 20 minute session per week

Children will continue to work on their cursive handwriting style, focussing on the practise of specific joins. Pencil grip, posture and neat layout will be developed.

MATHS:

There will be 5 hours of maths lessons per week. One lesson will focus on mental maths and improving mental agility.

Number - Multiplication and Division:

Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables.

Write and calculate mathematical statements for multiplication and division using the multiplication tables they know, including for two-digit numbers times one-digit numbers, using mental and progressing to formal written methods.

Solve problems, including missing number problems, involving multiplication and division, including positive integer scaling problems and correspondence problems in which n objects are connected to m objectives.

Measurement: length and perimeter

Measure, compare, add and subtract: lengths (m/cm/mm); mass (kg/g); volume/capacity (l/ml).

Measure the perimeter of simple 2D shapes.

Statistics:

Interpret and present data using bar charts, pictograms and tables.

Solve one-step and two-step questions [for example, 'How many more?' and 'How many fewer?' using information presented in scaled bar charts and pictograms and tables.

Children must continue to review and learn the following times tables: 2,3,4,5,8, and 10 Times Tables. MyMaths tasks will be set regularly; these should be completed independently at home.

SCIENCE:

Science is taught for two hours per week. Much of the work is practical-linked with the development of scientific skills.

This term children will continue their focus on forces by turning their attention to magnetism. They will look at a naturally occurring magnetic rock called lodestone (magnetite) and learn about the origins of, and myths about magnets. Subsequently they will investigate magnets in a 'free play' environment to discover attraction and repulsion, explaining observations. They will use bar magnets to find out like poles repel & opposite poles attract and explain that the Earth acts like a large bar magnet & that two poles are called north & south. Through investigations they will demonstrate magnetic fields using iron filings and develop a range of tests for finding out which magnet is the strongest. They will explain that materials that are attracted to magnets are called magnetic and will identify magnetic & non-magnetic materials in the classroom. Finally they will set up an enquiry to

find out if all metals are magnetic and discuss how this can be used to sort recycled materials.

GEOGRAPHY:

This term in Geography children will be learning about volcanoes. This is a topic that really excites them. We will look in particular at the location of volcanoes around the world, their causes and the impact that they have on the local environment and its inhabitants. Children will again have the opportunity to use the Library and internet to research and we would encourage them to keep an eye on the news for any topical information relating to volcanic eruptions around the world. We will find out about famous volcanoes and place the dates of their eruption on a simple time line. The topic will culminate in the children making and erupting their own volcanoes!

Computing:

This half term the children will be focusing on animations and coding. We will begin by exploring what animations are, their features and how they can be used in a variety of different ways. The children will plan their own animations then bring it to life using a block coding app called Scratch. Within Scratch, The children will create their own characters and backgrounds then animate them using code. Once animated, the children will then add finishing touches such as sound effects and music. The children will consider whether their algorithm is the most efficient it can be and learn to look for bugs in their code in order to debug the code to make sure their animations work how they planned them to.

Moral Education and Life Skills:

As part of the Growth Mind set series, the ClassDojo website that we use in class, have created a series about perseverance, including a concept called "The Dip." The children will complete and participate in the accompanying activities to help them learn the power of perseverance and what it looks like in real life! This is a 3 part series where the children will meet Katie who discovers the 'Dip' and learns about a common challenge that faces everyone when learning a new skill. It then goes on to show how to use Perseverance. When climbing out of the 'Dip' Katie learns from her teacher how to become a better artist. The children will learn about 'reflection.' Finally Katie learns that it is okay to not be the best as long as she is trying hard to improve.

UAE SOCIAL STUDIES for Course B students:

This half term we will be looking at the Geography of the UAE and its nature. The children will identify the most prominent natural features (terrain) prevailing in the UAE. They will name the well-known UAE islands and recognise the characteristics and features of Sir Bani Yas Island. Furthermore, the pupils will recognise the geographical distribution of the Hinterland plains and mountainous areas in the UAE and locate on the UAE map cities, and areas in the plains and the Hinterland mountainous areas. Finally, the children will locate on the UAE map the most important areas where people settled in the UAE and look at

the factors that helped the establishing of human settlements in the internal environment of the UAE.

ART:

This term we will turn our attention to the art of Georgia O'Keefe. They will be encouraged to observe artwork closely and record all different types of strokes seen. They will try their own observational drawing using oil pastels and paints and they will record from first hand observation. There will be the opportunity to draw plants and flowers using pencils and to be able to observe different viewpoints. They will have the opportunity to try observational drawing, using a view-finder to zoom in and enlarge an image to create their own Georgia O Keefe masterpiece.

The work of the Japanese artist Hokusai will be a focus, particularly his painting 'The Great Wave' as children will use water colours to replicate this piece of Art work.

PE:

During this half term in PE, the children will continue their Swimming lessons, focusing on front crawl, back stroke and breast stroke technique, continually developing their water confidence. In their other PE lessons, they will be focusing on games specifically looking at Netball with a range of activities and small games to develop the necessary skills, competencies and tactical awareness of the game.

FRENCH:

This term, we will be focusing on the family. Students will learn vocabulary for various family members and will learn how to say 'he/she is called ...'. We will also further raise the students' awareness of masculine, feminine and plural in the French language. Following this, we will work on how to say 'my' in French.

After learning about the family, we will be looking at counting to 100! Finally, there will be a little bit of mischief in lessons when we learn about how the French celebrate April Fool's Day ... beware!

MUSIC

We will be developing our singing voices and learning how to sing expressively and in tune, showing control of the musical elements. We will also be learning how to create, combine and perform rhythmic and melodic material as part of a group and class performance of a song. We will be learning how to recognise and find notes on a keyboard and how to use tuned and untuned percussion instruments effectively in a piece of music.

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 13th January: Umm Al Emarat Park trip

Monday 14th January: Primary Parents' Evening 3.15 to 6.15pm

Wednesday 16th January: Primary Parents' Evening 4 to 7pm

Sunday 3rd and Monday 4th February Abu Dhabi Science Festival Trip - TBC

Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th February: Half term break.

We will send further details outlining our plans for the second half of Term 2 after the Half Term break.

With best wishes,

The Year 3 Team