

# Year 3 Newsletter

Summer Term 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Maney Hill for the Summer Term! ☺

The children have returned upbeat and enthusiastic for their final term in Year 3 with many exciting activities and events to look forward to.

Here is a brief outline of what we will be learning this term:

Subject	Details
English	English lessons for this first half-term will focus on the theme of chocolate. Initially, we will be exploring some non-fiction content learning about how chocolate is made and where it originates from. We will be reading the ever-popular <i>Charlie and the Chocolate Factory</i> , investigating the central characters of Dahl's classic, considering Dahl's use of vocabulary and engaging in a variety of reading and writing tasks based on the story. Furthermore, we will have the opportunity to create our own fantasy chocolate products, listing ingredients and then scripting and performing adverts for them. The unit will conclude with reading, performing and writing some confectionary-based poetry.
Maths	We will begin this term revisiting and extending our knowledge of mental and written addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, looking to develop <i>mastery</i> in these areas. Additionally, we will develop our understanding in the area of geometry with work completed on angles, turns and lines in addition to looking at measurement using ml and l. Towards the end of the term, we will look at comparing, ordering, adding and subtracting fractions as well as converting between 12- and 24-hour time and reading Roman numeral clocks to the nearest minute.
Science	In Science, our new topic will be look at magnetism which will see many opportunities for practical experiments and investigations. To begin with, we will observe the different forces that a magnet produces, understanding the relationship between the north and south pole, using this to understand how magnets are used in a compass. Also, we will identify the properties of magnetic materials and conduct fair tests to discover which materials a magnetic force can pass through, how far a magnetic force spreads away from a magnet and whether bigger magnets are more powerful than smaller magnets.
Topic	<i>Early Settlers</i> will be our topic for the Summer Term, looking at the periods of the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age in pre-historic England. We will study each of these periods in depth, comparing how early man survived and adapted through the ages. Moreover, we will analyse artefacts from the time, create pottery and cave art in authentic ways and investigate the historical site of Stonehenge. During the first half of this term, we will be going on a trip to the Bishops Wood Centre (see Diary Dates) to enrich the learning in this topic.
P.E.	In P.E. this term, we will develop skills in football, with an F.A. qualified coach, as well as cricket and athletics. P.E. will normally take place on Tuesday and Thursday but please ensure full kit is always in school.

*Children will also have regular R.E. and French lessons.*

## Homework, Spellings and Reading

- One piece of homework will continue to be handed out each Friday, to be returned no later than the following Wednesday. Homework will alternate between English and Maths although a piece of Science or Topic may occasionally be sent out instead. Also, times tables sheets will be sent out, in the back of homework books, to be completed alongside the week's homework. Children should be able to quickly recall multiplication facts from the 2x, 3x, 4x, 5x, 8x, and 10x tables, as well as their inverse division facts, by the end of this term so regular practice is essential.
- The children will also get spellings to learn on a weekly basis. Spellings will be handed out on Friday, in spelling books, to be learnt at home for a test the following Friday. As a way of learning spellings, I would recommend getting your child to use them within written sentences which can be written in Homework books. Not only does this help with spelling the words, but also puts the words into context, builds your child's vocabulary and develops their sentence structure.
- Each child should be reading frequently at home and children will have the opportunity to independently change their reading book every day although should establish a deep understanding of the text before changing books.

## Diary Dates

- English Inspire Workshop – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May
- Class trip to the Bishops Wood Centre – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May

Thank you for your support throughout the year so far. If you have any concerns or queries during this term, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Mr T. McNicholas