

# Year 3 Newsletter

Summer Term 2018

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 term will focus on the themes of aliens and superheroes. Initial lessons are based on the book 'Beegu', which allows for class discussion and interpretation, and provides stimuli for summarising stories and inferring character and emotions. Later in the term, we will focus on known superheroes, from films and books, contrasting them with the villains they come up against and also comparing them with real-life heroes. We will also look closely at Heracles from Greek mythology, pondering if he was the first ever superhero, before exploring and retelling myths. This term, we will further explore a variety of text types, both fiction and non-fiction, including recounts, stories, descriptive writing and report writing.
Maths	We will begin this term developing our knowledge of shape (both 2D and 3D), angles (less than, equal to and greater than a right angle) and lines (vertical, horizontal, parallel and perpendicular). Throughout the term, we will revisit and extend our understanding, looking to develop a mastery of the curriculum, in many other areas including measurement (in ml and l), fractions, time and statistics. Additionally, we will complete work on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division looking at problems in different contexts, involving choosing the correct operation(s) and checking working out carefully.
Science	In Science, we will conclude our work on mirrors, light and reflection before moving onto learning about plants. We will identify the parts of a flowering plant, finding which of the foods we eat come from different parts of plants. Furthermore, we will explore how water is transported within plants and investigate the conditions that plants require to live, grow and stay healthy. This unit will be completed after looking at the life cycle of plants where we will learn about pollination, describing in detail the role of each part of a flower.
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 cave art in authentic ways and investigate the historical sites of Stonehenge and Skara Brae. During this term, we will be going on a trip to the Bishops Wood Centre and hosting a Living History workshop on Stonehenge to enrich the learning in this topic (see Diary Dates below).
P.E.	In P.E. this term, we will work on multi-skills activities, supported by an Aston Villa coach, as well as developing our tennis, cricket and athletics. P.E. will normally take place on Tuesday and Wednesday 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 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. 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 their book.

## Diary Dates

- English Inspire Workshop – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April
- Class trip to the Bishops Wood Centre – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June
- Living History Workshop on Stonehenge – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June
- Class trip to Pizza Express Sutton Coldfield – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July

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