



The Romans are Coming!



Welcome back to you all, from the Year 3 team. We are very much looking forward to an exciting term of learning about the Romans. We will be discovering more about the Roman invasion of Britain (and more specifically Colchester) as well as learning about some of the key people from this time. We are very excited to be sharing this with the children and we are looking forward to taking them on a trip to Colchester Castle on May 24th (further information will follow soon).

If you need to contact us directly to discuss any aspect of learning or support for your child, we encourage you to use our email addresses.



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English



In English there will be lots of writing opportunities to build key Year 3 skills such as extending sentences through the use of adverbs and conjunctions and developing the use of vocabulary to engage readers. We will continue to work on paragraphing and use of speech punctuation, as well as improving editing and proof-reading skills.

Writing opportunities will include fables, a biography of Queen Elizabeth II, recounts and writing in role, linked to our class novel. We will also be writing an engaging adventure narrative, building on techniques to add suspense into our work.



Maths

Maths will continue to focus on core place value and calculation skills, using both mental and written strategies. These will be applied to solve a range of problems involving measures and fractions. Time will feature again this term as we learn to read analogue and digital clocks to the minute and with this being a term learning about the Romans, we will look at Roman numerals too. We will also be calculating the duration of events.

The children will be introduced to angles as a property of a turn and begin to recognise these in shapes. Finally, the children will build on their knowledge of statistics, beginning to use scale to represent data in different ways.

Thank you for your continued support with helping the children to learn their times tables. Please continue this!

Science—Pushes and pulls and rocks and soils

At the start of the term, we will be learning about rocks and soils, using observation skills to help identify different types of rocks. The children will also learn how fossils are formed.

During the second half term, the children will learn about forces, in particular exploring friction by experimenting with toy cars to see this in action. We will also investigate with magnets to understand how the magnetic poles attract and repel each other and also finding objects that are magnetic.

Homework

Please remember to encourage your child to read at least three times a week at home, focusing on fluency and expression as well as understanding the meaning of new vocabulary. It would be helpful if you could make a brief comment in their reading diaries to support this. The children will also be set fluency homework on Tuesdays and Fridays, focusing on core mathematical skills such as times tables and number facts. The children will be notified of these on their Google Classroom log-in. Some of the tasks will be game based and some will be on My Maths. Please encourage your child to leave a comment on Google Classrooms to let us know how they got on.

PE

Outdoor PE will continue to be on a Tuesday and swimming will be on a Thursday (3K) and Friday (3C).

PE kits should be in everyday so we can take advantage of any good weather opportunities that may occur, for example taking part in a weekly mile challenge.

Please ensure that your child brings the full appropriate PE kits (including shorts and a change of socks).

This term we look at throwing, catching and batting skills with rounders, whilst in athletics the children will develop their long jump and running techniques.

We will also build stamina and fitness with long distance running and develop team working skills with problem solving activities.



Roman Mosaic Artwork

Our artwork will be linked to our Roman topic by looking at the use of mosaics and then experimenting with different patterns and cutting techniques that can be used. The children will create their own mosaic designs using paper, considering the use of shape, colour and texture in their final piece.

Finally, we hope to create a class/year group mosaic in time for Queen Elizabeth's jubilee celebrations.



Geography – Magical Maps

As well as learning about the Roman Empire and the countries that were part of this, the children will locate the counties of East Anglia and the home counties, developing their mapping skills. If you visit anywhere in the UK this term, please email us a picture!

The children will also further their fieldwork skills by learning how to make their own sketch maps from a 'bird's eye view'. Finally, the children will explore two-figure grid references.



Design and Technology

Hopefully, the beautiful weather will provide the perfect opportunity for Year 3 to explore the ingredients of sandwiches and have a picnic. We will learn how these ingredients are sourced and where they originate from.

Then will come an all-important taste test of different ingredients (we will write nearer the time to check for any allergies) to see what they like. After making their own sandwiches we will then eat them during a small picnic on the field—weather dependent of course!

Computing

We will be further developing our core computing skills by creating, organising and saving our work in folders and working hard on the speed of our typing. Through the use of Microsoft Publisher we will apply previous skills to create information texts on The Romans and cut and paste images from the internet, thinking carefully about copyright rules.

E-safety will be a high priority, particularly online safety when using apps and games and understand the PEGI age guidance.

Life Skills

This term, we will spend time learning about the rights and responsibilities we have in the community and towards the environment. We will also look at ways to keep track of money as well as how we can save. Additionally, we will consider changes and transitions in our lives and ways we can understand and manage our feelings about these.

RE

We will continue to look at Christianity and Judaism as we focus on the Old Testament and look at the story of Moses and the Ten Commandments before looking at parables from the Gospels in the New Testament. This then leads on to us comparing both religions to see where similarities and differences can be made through their holy books, teachings, ways of worshipping, festivals and each religion's holy buildings.

Languages

In French, we will learn the correct vocabulary for colours and use this to describe objects in the classroom. We will continue to learn how to ask and answer questions in French and build our confidence to accurately write sentences about ourselves.