



MUMMY MADNESS

Welcome to Year 3! We are really excited about helping you learn, and we hope you enjoy learning about our interesting topics as much as we have enjoyed planning them! Miss Campling, Mr Kitchener, Mrs Meadows and Mrs Cobb.

English: Each week, you will have a guided reading session, where you will work in a group to read and discuss the text. This is a great opportunity to improve your understanding of what you have read, the meaning of new and more challenging vocabulary, and hopefully to continue to develop your love for reading. After each session, you will have a short independent task to complete. You will also use lots of reading activities to help you improve your writing by looking at what authors do before trying to use some of the techniques in your own writing.

We know that many of you are very keen to start using a pen so we will do lots of handwriting practice to help you with this. A key focus for our written work in English will be on developing ideas through expanding nouns, making sure that sentences make sense and that they are accurately punctuated with capital letters, full stops, question marks, exclamation marks, inverted commas (speech marks) and commas in lists. We would also like you to try hard to learn and apply the spelling strategies that you are taught. You will be writing: descriptive poetry, fabulous fiction (traditional tales), diary entries and persuasive letters.

Ancient Egypt: This is such an exciting topic! We will be journeying back in time to the ancient lands of the Egyptian pharaohs. During our topic, you will learn about the importance of the River Nile, daily life in Ancient Egypt, tombs, pyramids and mummification. We will also look at the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb as well as finding out about the Rosetta Stone and hieroglyphics, learning how historians have used a wide variety of historical evidence to piece together our understanding of this amazing civilization.



Maths: You will learn more about place value extending to numbers up to 1000. You will be taught formal written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division with numbers up to 1000 as well as continuing to build your fluency when calculating mentally. You will also explore fractions, learning how to recognize equivalent fractions and finding fractions of amounts. At home, you could play lots of games which need you to use your counting and number skills (e.g shut the box, dice games, hit the button etc).

Science: You will learn about different types of flowering plants, their life cycle (including parts of a flower, seed production and dispersal) how water is transported and what plants need in order to grow. Whilst looking at mummification in history, we will find out about the human skeleton and muscles as well as our need for different types of nutrition. We will compare humans with other types of animals and discuss similarities and differences.

Computing: You will begin the year developing your understanding of the importance of E-safety. We will focus on staying safe whilst on the internet, stressing the importance of being careful in this ever-evolving cyber world. You will then learn how to create a simple program to control an on screen 'turtle'.

We will also be practising the key skill of typing this term. You will use a variety of different programs, including Microsoft Word, to present your ideas.

PE: PE days are planned as Mondays and Tuesdays. PE Kits will be taken home every Friday and will need returning, washed, by the following Monday.

This term we look at football and tag rugby skills, building passing accuracy, control of the ball and some simple game play. In dance, we will be learning some country dancing routines and our gymnastics work will focus on improving body control when jumping, rolling and balancing, combining moves to make short sequences.

Life Skills: As you begin Key stage 2, we will spend time helping you embrace change and transition. Following this, we will look at community and what this means. We will then look at how to handle friendship issues and discuss ways of encouraging positive relationships and dealing with influences and pressure. We will also learn what a balanced healthy lifestyle is and build knowledge about hygiene. Finally, we will find out about diversity and explore different customs and traditions.

RE: This term, you will be looking in depth at the Christian faith. We will be focusing on churches and their function, hopefully visiting one of our local churches as part of our study.

You will learn about the Christmas story too and use your English skills to rewrite this from the perspective of different people from the story.

Music: In music, you will listen to a variety of garden and flower inspired pieces of music from different periods, learning about the different musical elements. You will learn how to play a simple tune on the glockenspiel focusing on the notes: e, d, c and f.

Languages: In Year 3, your journey with French begins! We will start by learning to introduce ourselves. Parents, please prepare yourselves for your children to be asking how you are, what your name is and perhaps even how old you are - in French of course!



Art: You will learn how to improve sketching techniques through close observational drawing of plants, focusing on using different tones, shades and textures within the detail. After mixing colours to understand how primary and secondary colours can contrast and complement each other you will then look at the application of watercolour paint to create washes for a background to silhouetted Egyptian landscapes. Hopefully, the work of Kevin Roach and Leonardo da Vinci will help inspire you.

DT: In the build up to Christmas, we will carry out a gift box project where you will design, make and evaluate your own gift box. Maybe it will come in useful for that special something at Christmas!

Homework: Alongside reading and times tables practice, a small additional task will be allocated to you - this will be set on Google Classrooms on a Friday, to be completed by the following Wednesday. This will be a 20 minute task of independent work relating to either the Maths or English taught within lessons. Some of the Maths may be allocated on My Maths (which is an online facility and a log in will follow shortly). Those without access to the internet will be provided with paper copies, just let us know if you require this.

Reading and Times Tables: Knowing the times tables and related division facts for the 2, 5, 10, (the school's Pascal level certificate) and 3, 4, 6 and 8's (Newton level certificate) are key objectives for you in Year 3, please practise these at home. We can help by providing you with some additional handouts if you require them. Likewise, reading is vital in building writing skills. With the new school reading structure in place, remember to re-read books to build fluency and help with the mechanics of reading but don't forget to foster that love of reading by snuggling up and enjoying a book together!

Parents, as always, we are available to discuss your children's needs: please feel free to contact the office for an appointment or a telephone call. We are also available on email (miss.campling@greattotham.essex.sch.uk or mr.kitchener@greattotham.essex.sch.uk), but if you have an urgent query please contact the office in the first instance. We appreciate that moving to KS2 can be a big step for the children and we are here to support in any way we can.

The Year 3 Team