



QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year Three JG

Terms 1 and 2- The Stone Age

Meet the team

Mr Grant- Class Teacher
Mrs Lannigan – Teaching Assistant
Mrs Walker – Teaching Assistant (Mornings)

English
We will start by looking at the Stone Age Boy by <i>Satoshi Kitamura</i> . We will use this book to write our own Stone Age diary entry and cave setting descriptions. Next, we will use 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth' by <i>Michelle Robinson and Kate Hindley</i> to help us write Woolly Mammoth washing instructions! In term 2, we will look at The Wild Girl by <i>Chris Wormell</i> to help us write character descriptions. We will also write our own non-chronological reports based on our own history research about the Stone Age.
Mathematics
Our first topic for this term is place value. This will include ordering and comparing 3-digit numbers and understanding the value of each digit. We will be then be moving on to addition and subtraction, looking at rounding and also using number facts to aid our addition and subtraction. Our final topic for term one is multiplication and division. We will be learning to use mental and formal written methods to calculate answers and we will also be solving problems, including missing number problems.
Science
By the end of the 1 st topic everyone will be petrologists! Our first science topic is Rocks and Soils, exploring what they are, different types and how they are used in our school and in the wider environment. The children will carry out experiments to examine the properties of rocks and draw detailed observations, set up simple practical investigations to test their properties, make their own fossils, learn the process of fossilisation and investigate the different layers of soil. Our second topic is 'light', we will play mirror games to help them to answer questions about how light behaves, think about why it is important to protect our eyes from bright lights and investigate shadows by finding patterns in the way that the size of shadows change.
Computing (IT)
During ICT, we will explore e-safety, creating an understanding of how to keep safe while using the internet. We will also use programming software (Scratch-for beginners) to create our own animated character. The children will develop skills to command their character and create a sequence of movements.
Design & Technology (DT)
In term 2 in DT, we will create our own cave carving using clay and a selection of carving tools. We will design our own carving that has personal meaning.
Art
In art we will look at The Frist Drawing by <i>Mordicai Gerstein</i> and create our own cave drawings and paintings as well as creating our own Stonehenge! Later on we will be looking creating patterned jewellery. We will be inviting you to a shared lesson so please look out for that.
Music
All the learning is focused around one song: Let Your Spirit Fly. We will explore the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc) through games, singing and playing instruments. In term two, we will learn a range of Christmas songs for our Christmas Carol concert.
Religious Education (RE)

In term one, we will explore Christianity by focusing on Jesus the miracle maker. In term two, we will look at Hinduism and the celebration of Diwali. In both topics we will discover important places of worship, pilgrimage and sacred places.
Physical Education (PE)
In term one, we will focus on football and tag rugby. The children will learn basic passing, defending and attacking skills. All skills will be taught in small groups and as fun games to build confidence. In term two, we will focus on netball and gymnastics. In netball, we will play invasion games to build our passing and movement skills. In gymnastics, we will use our bodies and different apparatus to practise a range of balances and movement.
History
Our topic is Changes in Britain from the Stone age to the Iron age and I am sure the children will enjoy finding out about how people lived during such a different time. What did they eat? What did they wear? Where did they live? How did they communicate? How did they survive? We will investigate all these questions and more!
Geography
We will also be investigating famous caves and mountains around the world.
Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)
In term one, we will be focusing on 'being my best' and how to face new challenges positively and how to make positive judgements and decisions. At the end of the term, we will be discussing medicines and drugs and think about how to stay healthy. In term two, we will explore relationships and how to resist negative peer pressure and how we can work together as a team.
Modern Foreign Language
Now the children are in Year 3, we will learn French greetings, numbers, alphabet and pronunciation as well as responding to simple French stories, poems and songs. I hope the children will come home, eager to show off their new skills!

What homework to expect and when.

Homework is designed to help the children develop and extend skills taught in the classroom. Therefore every child will be expected to complete homework. Homework will be set every Friday and will be due back on Thursday each week. It will include a piece of maths and English work each week. In maths we will practise times tables and in term one we will focus on the 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, and 10s. Please use Times Table Rockstars <https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student> to help your child practise. We will use this website to set some maths homework. English will include a fortnightly list of spellings or a grammar activity. Occasionally, the children may be asked to carry out a task to investigate our topics more instead. The children will need to read every day to help them increase their phonics knowledge and broaden their vocabulary. Please read with your child for 15 minutes a day. You will be provided with a home/school reading diary to record the children's reading and they will be given opportunities to complete book tasks and win raffle tickets for their efforts.

Ways you can help your child at home.

In Year 3 we help the children build up independence skills and ask that you encourage this by saying goodbye at the outside door, so allowing the children to walk into the cloakroom area by themselves. They will be expected to put their bags and lunches away and to change their own reading books. They will then settle to a morning task as soon as possible. The doors open at 8:30 and lessons start promptly at 8:45am. There is no free fruit in year three so please ensure your child has a piece of fruit for their snack.

Blogs!

We will be updating our blog regularly and hope many of you will follow our progress and achievements throughout the year. You can access the blog via <http://www.queensway.oxon.sch.uk> and click the following tabs > children > class pages > select class > click here to see your class blog.

PE days

To make the most of the good weather, in term one, we will be outdoors on both PE slots. On **Wednesday** Mr Mawn will teach the children tag rugby and on **Friday** Mrs Lannigan will teach football.

Please ensure that your child has the correct kit available in school, including:

- Navy jogging trousers
- White t-shirt
- Navy shorts
- Navy jumper

- Trainers for outside use
- Plimsolls for inside use

I'm looking forward to working with you all this year. Please don't hesitate to speak with me if you have any questions.

Best wishes

Mr Grant
Class Teacher