

### Class 3 Spring Term 2023



Dear Families,

Happy New Year – I hope you have all enjoyed a restful break over the holidays. We are looking forward to an exciting term ahead filled with plentiful learning opportunities including a trip to Grantham Museum, a day celebrating Chinese New Year and World Book Day! We will be composing and performing our second class assembly of the academic year during the latter part of the term when we will share some of our learning with you again!

Our overall topic theme during the first half term will centre on ‘Ferocious Earth.’ We will be learning about earthquakes and volcanos as well as engaging in a unit on electricity in Science.

As always, if you have any questions, something you would like to share or discuss with regard to your child, please do let me know and I will be happy to listen!

With kind regards from

Mrs Gentry 😊

**English:** In English this term we will be covering the following genres: writing & performing a play, writing descriptive story settings, persuasive writing, narrative poetry and building our vocabulary. Children will develop their writing skills through familiarising themselves with the particular genre, identifying the specific features and ultimately producing their own piece of writing for each genre. We will continue with our handwriting and spelling focussing on the Year 2, 3 and 4 statutory requirements.

**Maths:** As mathematicians, we will be focussing on statistics, reasoning within addition and subtraction and learning formal addition and subtraction methods. Year 2/3 will also be learning to tell the time and estimating, ordering and comparing lengths of time. In the second half term, they will focus on multiplication and division. Year 3/4 have a focus on reasoning this term – proportional, spatial, geometric, additive and multiplicative! I am sure they will share this with you at home! 😊

**Science:** As Scientists we will be learning about electricity in our ‘Power It Up!’ unit. We will identify common appliances that use electrical power. We will create simple series circuits and make systematic observations to evaluate whether a bulb will work and how brightly it shines. Using labelled diagrams and correct symbols associated with electrical circuits, we will document our findings. We will introduce switches to our circuits to develop our understanding of open and closed circuits. Finally, we will plan and carry out a scientific investigation to find out which materials are conductors and which are insulators. In the second half of the term we will learn about plants through an interesting unit of learning entitled ‘How Does Your Garden Grow?’ The children will learn about the different parts of plants, what plants need to live, water transportation in plants and pollination.

**Geography:** During the first half of this term, as Geographers, we will be practising our map skills by locating some of the worlds’ best-known volcanoes and by naming the countries and continents where they can be found. We will be describing the physical features of environments and looking at the effects volcanoes and earthquakes have on settlements. We will consider the human activity in these areas and why, although at risk of volcanic explosions and earthquakes, communities have chosen to live in these areas.

**History:** As Historians, during the second half of the Spring Term, our learning will focus on Britain’s settlements by Anglo Saxons and Scots. We will further develop our historical skills such as understanding chronology, communicating historically, investigating and interpreting the past through resources, artefacts and research.

**Art:** As Artists, in Spring Term 2, we will explore printing and digital media.

**D&T:** As Designers, we will research simple circuits. We will develop design criteria for a game that is created from a simple circuit. We will develop and communicate our ideas through annotated sketches and prototypes. In small

groups we will then make our final designs using appropriate materials and tools to ensure practically for purpose. We will then evaluate our finished product.

**Music:** As Musicians, we will describe, transcribe, compose and perform music. Using appropriate terminology, we will describe various pieces of music and evaluate this to identify our likes and dislikes. We will develop our skills of transcribing musical notations.

**Computing:** As Users of Technology we will be focussing on Coding this half term before moving onto spreadsheets in the second half of the term. Using the PRIMM approach – Predict, Run, Investigate, Modify & Make – once we are confident, we will finish by making our own program from scratch. When we move onto spreadsheets we will learn to use 2Calculate – a simple to use spreadsheet for beginners. There is a strong link to Mathematics when using spreadsheets so we will have a great opportunity to apply our number skills in this unit!

**PSHE:** In PSHE we will consider ‘Belonging to a Community.’ We will think about what makes a community, what are the shared responsibilities that being part of a community involves and how communities come together in times of crisis. This will link with our learning on earthquakes and volcanoes. We will also be developing media literacy and digital resilience. Lastly, our final PSHE unit this term will centre on money ~ making decisions about money; using and keeping money safe.

**RE:** In RE we will start by exploring how the Israelites crossed the River Jordan into Canaan, the story of Rahab and the spies and then the fall of Jericho. We will then find out how the Israelites worked together to settle in Canaan. Finally, we will find out about Gideon.

**French:** As Speakers of other languages, we will learn the vocabulary to talk and write about the seasons, weather and clothing in French. In the second half term we will focus on homes and gardens.

**PE:** In PE we will engage in a Dance unit this half term centred on earthquakes and volcanoes, develop our gymnastic dance and hockey skills. We will continue our swimming lessons each week as well.

Please ensure that your child’s P.E kit is in school at all times, including plimsolls or trainers, as, when possible, we will try to have PE outdoors this term. Although P.E is timetabled on set days (Monday and Thursday), sometimes this needs to change to accommodate the weather etc.

### **Home Learning**

**Reading:** Please encourage your child to read at home each night. Please discuss and ask questions about the illustrations and story to enable comprehension and enjoyment. Also, please check and explain the meaning of unfamiliar words to your child to develop their vocabulary.

**Spelling:** Each Monday the children will be given a list of spellings to learn. The children will be tested on these spellings the following Monday.

**Other homework:** Brain Builder tasks will also be given relating to what is being learnt in class to consolidate learning in an interesting way at home!