



Class 3 – Autumn Term - Amazing Africa



As we start the new academic year of 2024/25, I would like to express how excited and lucky I am to teach Class 3 again. I'm excited to carrying on their learning journey with them into the next year and cannot wait to see them continue to grow and flourish. This term is full of interesting topics which I'm sure the children will enjoy. Over the next few months, we will be engrossing ourselves in our topic theme for this term 'Amazing Africa.'

Our areas of learning:

English: To begin with we will be reading *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe* focusing on a variety of different grammar features and genres as we explore this novel. Next, we will be looking at poetry focusing on the theme of counting for the local poetry competition to ensure the children have a winning entry. The final part of the half term will focus on an African Folk Tale of Fly, Eagle Fly to create those all-important cross-curricular links. Following half term, we will start with looking at narrative poetry creating our own forms inspired by other poets. In addition, the children will then look at some instruction writing, a report on wolves and then a final poetry piece with the subject focus being wolves.

Maths: We will first be focusing on place value where pupils will explore and build their understanding of the relative size of whole numbers. They will be provided with a variety of opportunities to represent numbers in different ways using resources, pictorially and using language and symbols. These opportunities will allow pupils to experience flexible regrouping (partitioning) to strengthen their understanding of place value. We will then move on to mental addition where children will provided with many opportunities to cultivate their mental fluency in addition and subtraction before moving onto formal written methods, including ensuring that they can adequately calculate within 20 and then make the links to 100 and beyond, building on from Year 2. Finally, multiplication and division building fact recall (times tables) before looking at geometry with a focus on angles.

Science: First, we will be exploring sound. We will cover how sounds are made, vibrations, the ear and what impacts the volume of sound. We will perform scientific observations and experiments to test out hypotheses. After half term, pupils will investigate rocks and soils. They will observe rocks closely and discover that they have different qualities and features, group rocks in different ways and know how a rock is formed. They will then look at the components of soil and how it is formed through our own class wormery.

Art and Design Technology: For the first part of the half term we will be concentrating on animal prints and looking at how they can be replicated through a variety of printing techniques. The children will then look at the art form Tinga Tinga and create our own animal in a similar artist style. After half term we will focus on African cuisine and each week will create a new cultural dish from scratch.

Computing: To start with we will develop our knowledge of online safety. In addition, we will be creating our own game on Scratch through coding skills. Then we will finish the term looking at Micro:bits which is a tangible way to develop coding. It's real, it's exciting and it gives the children confidence to try new things and experiment.

Geography: We will develop our map skills in a variety of ways. We will be looking at the continent of Africa. The children will be able to identify African countries and locate them on a map, to find out about western Africa focusing on Nigeria, explore northern Africa concentrating on Morocco and discover central Africa with a focus on the Central African Republic.

History: We will be studying the non-European early civilisation of The Benin Kingdom. We will be looking for evidence of what life was like during these times. We will be finding out how archaeologists and historians have found buried treasure from the past that reveal secrets from those times. We will use

secondary sources of evidence to help us find out about houses, culture and leisure, clothes their way of lie, medicine and beliefs. We will also explore the arguments historians have about what the evidence tells us.

Languages: We will learn about time - counting, days of the week and months. In addition, we will improve our conversation language to ask each other and talk about our birthdays and what we did yesterday and what we plan to do tomorrow. We will increase our vocabulary, learning new words about how Christmas is celebrated in France and the similarities or differences with how they celebrate.

Music: We will be looking at the question how does music bring us closer together. The children will look at a variety of different genres and learn basic notation. They will listen and respond using the correct musical terminology to a variety of different songs and learn to perform some as a class.

PE: We will be looking at netball and football. They will learn to choose and combine techniques in game situations (running, throwing, catching, passing, jumping and kicking, etc.), choose the most appropriate tactics for a game whilst also acting on being a good role model within a team and competitive situations.

Although P.E is timetabled on set days (Monday and Wednesday), sometimes this needs to change please ensure PE kits are always in school. This term we will be swimming on Friday mornings.

PSHE: We will be looking at families & friendships focusing on what makes a family; features of family life and bullying. The next overarching topic area is respecting ourselves and others, looking at recognising respectful behaviour; the importance of self-respect; courtesy and being polite. Lastly the topic is safe relationships looking at personal boundaries; safely responding to others and the impact of hurtful behaviour.

Religious Education: We will start by going on a 'Son Seeker Safari' that will take us on a trail to find out more about how God protects us and provides for our needs. We will then explore how God used special people to write down His messages in the Bible. We will practise finding different books, chapters and verses to research and find out what the Bible tells us about God. We will then explore different stories about thankfulness and how one man's gratitude overflowed whilst others, although grateful, didn't express their appreciation. We will learn to express our thankfulness in as many ways as possible

Home Learning

Reading: Please encourage your child to read fluently and with expression, each night at home. Please discuss and ask questions about what they have read, as well the meaning of words to ensure a full understanding of the text and to develop their vocabulary. Please can you use their reading records/diaries to record the pages they have read to you and initial who has heard them.

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.

Maths: Please continue to practice the rapid recall of multiplication and division facts and complete the individualised homework set. This is will be to do with the aspect being in taught in Maths that week.

Other homework: Other homework will also be given related to what is being learnt in class to consolidate learning and will be given out when appropriate. This will be through the medium of brain builders and will be termly projects.

If there every any concerns or worries please do not hesitate to contact me- happy to help.

Mrs Carrington