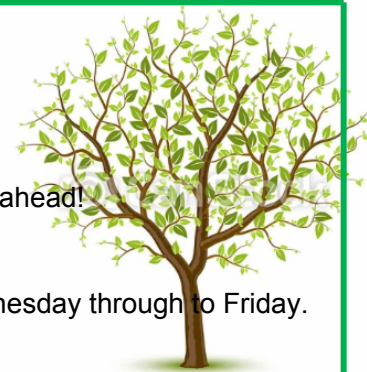


Class 3 Autumn Term 2026



Welcome back to all children and parents of Year 3!

We hope you all had a lovely summer and we are looking forward to the exciting year ahead!

Our Week

Mr Sands will teach on a Monday and Tuesday and Mrs Dunton will be teaching Wednesday through to Friday.

Reading

Please continue to hear your child read as often as possible and encourage them to talk about what has happened in the story, what they think might happen, discuss the characters and ask them questions about what they have read. Children must independently change their books as they are completed.

Spellings

Spellings will be set on a Friday and tested the following Friday. These spellings will be a mixture of 'common exception words' for their year group as well as a selection of spellings aimed at consolidating spelling strategies and grammar learnt during the week.

English

In our first story, 'The Wilderness', we will explore the sights and sounds of the wilderness – both through the book and through a walk in an outdoor area. This will lead to the children writing a guide to enjoying the wilderness to inspire other children to enjoy getting outdoors in nature. Later, we will enjoy the magical and mysterious 'Leon and the Place Between'. The book will inspire the children to write their own version of a fantasy story.

Maths

The children will continue to work on reasoning and fluency within Mathematics throughout all lessons. We will begin with the study of adding and subtracting across 10 before focussing on 2 Numbers to 1,000. Please encourage and help your child to practise times tables as much as possible – this could be from chanting times tables in the car to using Times Tables Rockstars to really consolidate them.

Times Tables

Your child has a login to Times Tables Rockstars which they can use at School and at Home to help them learn their Times Tables. From the start of the year, Times Tables will be taught daily in school using a Times Tables Fluency Programme. Through this programme the children won't be 'tested' on times tables as the emphasis is on repetition of the key facts. The programme involves a greater understanding of Times Tables facts and will enable the children to understand how Times Tables are linked.

Science

We will begin by studying **Rocks**, comparing different types of rocks and learning how fossils are formed. Our second unit will cover **Light**, exploring the relationship between light and how we see, including the formation of shadows.

Geography- Geography- Rivers, lakes, seas and oceans

Children learn about rivers, lakes, seas and oceans, how rivers flow from their source to their mouth, and the physical features around them such as valleys, mountains and hills. They explore land use for farming, settlements and industry, learn the names of the UK's surrounding seas, and understand how harbours and ports support trade and leisure. Pupils also consider overfishing and the need for sustainable fishing, and practise using aerial photographs to spot features from a plan view.

History- Explorers

This term, we will be learning about **explorers** and finding out what makes someone an explorer. We will learn about two very different people from history:

Sacagawea – a Shoshone woman who joined the Lewis and Clark expedition. We will discover how she helped the expedition explore and map parts of North America.

Michael Collins – an American pilot and astronaut who was part of the **Apollo 11 mission**. We will learn about his role in the mission to the Moon and the importance of the Space Race.

By the end of the unit we will understand what an **explorer** is, find out about the lives of people from the past, compare the lives and experiences of **Sacagawea and Michael Collins** and use photographs, maps and other historical sources to find out about the past.

RE- What is the good news that Jesus brings?

In this unit, pupils will learn about the concept of 'Gospel' and the good news of forgiveness, peace and love that Christians believe Jesus brings. Pupils will learn about Matthew the Tax Collector and how Christians believe that Jesus offers forgiveness, looking at their heart rather than what they have done in the past.

Art- Explore and Draw

In this unit, children will explore the work of artist **Andy Goldsworthy** and learn how he uses natural materials to create interesting sculptures and patterns.

Children will explore composition by arranging natural objects they have collected and explaining their creative choices, experiment with different drawing materials, including graphite sticks, soft pencils and handwriting pens and develop their observational drawing skills. The unit encourages children to look closely at the natural world, experiment with materials and express their own creative ideas.

Computing

In computing, we plan to follow 2 interesting units

1. We are programmers – We will create characters and backgrounds for an animation.
2. We are bug-fixers – We will find and correct bugs in the programmes that we are using.

PE

PE will be on Mondays with Achieve 4 all and then on Fridays with Mrs Dunton.

The children will consolidate children's ability to apply the principles of attack vs defence in games.

Please can your child come to school dressed in their PE kit on Mondays and bring their PE kit to school on Fridays to change after lunch.

PSHE- Foundations for Wellbeing

This term, the children will also develop their understanding of **emotions, self-esteem and resilience**, learning strategies to manage feelings and cope with challenges. We will explore the importance of positive friendships, kindness, respect and knowing when and how to ask a trusted adult for help. Throughout the unit, children will be encouraged to make positive choices, understand what helps them feel happy and healthy, and develop the skills they need to look after themselves and others.

Music

We will be learning about the key musical elements as we learn to sing some simple songs., with a focus on R&B. We will seek to develop the children's singing voices ready for the Christmas performance.

French

We will begin our learning of French by thinking about what we know about France and other French-speaking countries and their culture, alongside starting to develop and gain confidence in our speaking and listening skills to meet and greet people.

How can I help my child?

Please read with your child every day... and then read some more!

Practise times tables as regularly as possible.

Label all school uniform and PE kit.

Support your child with their learning of statutory spelling lists.

All of the work undertaken will ensure that children are reaching their personal learning goals. We look forward to the many exciting opportunities we hope that each and every child will experience throughout their time in Class Four! Please do not hesitate to come and see us if you have any queries.

With best wishes, Mrs Dunton and Mr Sands