

# Class Three

## Curriculum Overview



Autumn Term  
(to October 20<sup>th</sup>)

September 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the start of the year at Hyde C of E Primary School. I hope you have all enjoyed the summer break. Welcome to those who are new to Class 3, we have all been settling in well during our first week back. Below is some information that you might find useful over the coming weeks: -

- For the time being, PE sessions will be on a Wednesday and a Friday, but please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school at all times, including a set of plimsolls, as the day may change due to weather conditions. Hall sessions begin in October.
- Your child should also have outdoor shoes in school at all times and waterproof trousers must be worn if they want to play football at break and lunchtimes.
- In order to encourage and develop independence in Class 3, we ask that children come into school and leave school by themselves using the main entrance.
- Please ensure that your child has their pencil case in school at all times. This should include a fountain pen if your child has a pen license. These can be purchased from the office if needed.

### **Homework**

Homework this year will consist of spelling, reading and maths, a combination of which should be practised every day. Spellings will be set and tested every Friday, along with a maths task relating

to the work we have been covering in class that week. In addition to this, your child will also be given periodic project based homework, focussing on their topic work.

### Spellings

Spellings will be given out every Friday, with a spelling test the following Friday. Your child should be practising their spellings for ten minutes per day, at least three times per week. This should include; writing them down, playing games, using LOOK, COVER, WRITE, CHECK and writing the words in sentences or in an interesting and creative way – For example, a story or a newspaper article that they have written themselves.

**Each week your child should write each of their spellings out five times in their spelling books and put each of their words into a sentence.**

### Reading

Your child should be reading at home, whether independently or with adult support every day. This should be for at least ten minutes, preferably longer. When hearing your child read, it is important to discuss what it is they are reading to ensure they fully understand the text. You can also use reading time to discuss spellings and sentence structure, (looking at the use of commas for example), within the text. I also ask that you are filling in your child's reading record on a regular basis, signing and dating when they have read to you at home.

### Multiplication Facts

It is extremely important that children have a secure knowledge of the multiplication facts and their inverse (opposite) operation;  $3 \times$

$4 = 12$ ,  $12 \div 3 = 4$  etc, in order to support their learning in other areas of maths. Therefore your child should be practising their Times Tables at home, with your support and encouragement. This could be ten minutes when they get home from school, after dinner, even around the breakfast table or on a long journey in the car! Even if your child has learnt all of their Times Tables, it is still useful to play games or ask them quick fire questions from time to time, so that they stay fresh in their mind. As well as times tables' tests, we will also be having mental maths tests every other week.

### 'Topic Task'

This will be a more researched based project for your child to work on over two or three weeks. The date the work is due to be handed in will accompany the set task. You should support your child with the task and encourage them to be as creative as possible with the way they present their work e.g. posters, leaflets, PowerPoint presentations, reports on visits to museums, models built, art work, project books, etc. Your child will then present their work to the rest of the class, explaining their methods and what they have found out.

**Repeated failure to hand in homework on time will result in the loss of playtime.**

I have also sent home a copy of a homework table, which breaks down each type of homework task that your child will receive whilst in Class 3, explaining the expectations of each piece of work. This will also be in the Class 3 section of the school website.

If you ever have any questions about homework, or anything else during the course of the year, then please don't hesitate to find me after school to have a quick chat.

It's already been a great start to the term and I'm really looking forward to the year ahead in Class 3. Please feel free to pop in and meet me at any point if you haven't done so already.

Mr Wedick

## THE CURRICULUM

### RIVERS

Our topic this half term is a geography based topic about **Rivers**, where the children will learn about them and their effects on the landscape and environment surrounding them. We will start by taking a close look at The River Avon, creating a river picture trail and learning the physical features of a rivers course, before making our own rivers in class, using a variety of resources.

To find out more, we will also be taking the children to Linford Bottom and Fordingbridge in two half-day trips. Incorporated in these half days will be a river and local area study, where the children will be able to will measure the flow rate of water, measure the shape of the channel and study some of the river wildlife more closely. This will lead us into considering how and why a river might change, exploring natural and man-made changes. We will also be investigating the characteristics of the local environment, using ordnance survey maps to locate different parts of the River Avon. This will help us to gain a

better understanding of the physical processes of rivers and how they can drastically change the character of places. More details about these trips will be coming out in the week ahead.

We will also be finding out about some other rivers in the UK and further afield, adding to our understanding of counties, countries, continents and locations around the world.

### English

During our English sessions, Class 3 will initially be looking at explanation texts. We will practise the art of summarising and note-taking, whilst we research and find out more about the forming and structure of rivers and how they can be used to create energy. This will then enable us to write our own explanations on rivers, for example, as to why certain rivers flood and how this can be prevented in the future.

We then move into writing our own river stories, using our class reader, 'Journey to the River Sea,' by Eva Ibbotson as a base for our writing. We will focus on effective descriptions and how we can use the river to move forward the narrative. Finally, we will create our own river poems, using 'The Brook' by Alfred Tennyson as our inspiration. These will then be performed in class.

We will have a daily spelling lesson, using the 'No Nonsense' spelling programme to boost our ability to recognise spelling patterns, add new words to our vocabulary and to spell trickier or unfamiliar words. Usually we will focus on a spelling rule, pattern or sound each week e.g the vowel sound 'ee', adding -ed to regular verbs or homophones. The weekly spellings will be a

continuation of what we have been learning in class and should be reinforced by being learnt and practised at home.

### Guided Reading

We will also have daily guided reading sessions, during which the children will take part in a number of different activities.

During each week, your child will complete written tasks based on a shared book, practise independent comprehension questions, read aloud with Mr Wedick and continue to read an independent reading choice of their own.

### Maths

Number work will start with extending and reinforcing knowledge of place value, up to and beyond six figure numbers. Mental and written strategies of multiplication and division will form a large part of the work early in the term, and later we will be extending written strategies for addition and subtraction.

Fractions, percentages and decimal equivalences; ratio and proportion; capacity and data handling are also other areas that will be covered. At all times, the children will be encouraged to use mental and written strategies and explain their working.

You can help your child by helping them to learn tables' facts thoroughly, including knowing related division facts. As I mentioned in 'Homework,' there will be regular tables' tests and speed and accuracy of tables' knowledge will make a huge difference to your child's learning.

## PE

We will continue to use the REAL PE scheme in class, as well as developing a greater awareness of achieving our own personal bests. We will start the year by working on our social skills and attitudes within games, thinking about ways of developing more effective ways of communication during different types of activities. We will also consider using non-verbal communication techniques and will apply this to our tactical thinking within Basketball.

## RE

The first theme we will be focusing on this year will be centred on the key concept of God and Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We will be looking closely at the different ways that people describe God, thinking about what Christians and people from other religious backgrounds believe about God and how their beliefs can be useful to us in our lives.

## PLC (Philosophy For Children) and PSHE

Our topic in our philosophical enquiries and our PSHE sessions this half term will be centred on the idea of 'responsibility.' Using our topic of river flooding as our stimulus, we will be thinking deeply about our local environment and the wider world; the people, the places, the past and the politics surrounding decision making. As a group, we will discuss and suggest ways in which aid work could be improved. Through this, the children will learn that a community needs to respect the interests of individuals and groups when such decisions are made in local government. They will also come to accept the idea that their lives are affected by politics and government and

that having respect for other people and their views is very important. The children will also grow to appreciate that everyone has a responsibility to show respect for property and that people's present lives are affected by their past.

### Art

Based on the class theme of 'Rivers', we will be looking at how rivers have been portrayed in art and using the idea of 'meandering' to inspire our own work using chosen materials

### Music

In addition to preparing for our Harvest Festival, through the singing of songs, learning poems and using tuned and untuned percussion to compose, we shall be listening to music inspired by water and do further instrumental composition.

### French

We will be combining the vocabulary we have learned previously for greetings, numbers and food to structure sentences for going shopping. We will learn the names of the shops we might typically find in a town and learn the names of some of the items we might purchase in each one. Through role play we will act out 'shopping scenes' and then learn to write a simple play script using new and previously learned words and phrases.

## Useful Websites

### Maths

<http://www.mathletics.co.uk/> - This is an award winning website which allows your child to log in and play maths games against different children from around the world. There are hundreds of different maths activities and problem solving areas for your child to work on, where they can score points and win virtual prizes and certificates. Your child should already have their own log in, which will then enable them to use mathletics at school and at home.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/> - The BBC has a fantastic website called Bitesize, which breaks down different areas of mathematical understanding into small chunks, including fun games and activities and short quizzes. We sometimes use this learning tool in class, so your child should be familiar how to navigate around the site.

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/> - This is a superb website that has a huge range of games, puzzles and maths questions for your child to work on at home. The website is even broken down into different mathematical areas, so if there is a particular area of maths that your child needs more work on, for instance fractions, then there are lots of ways in which they can practise at home. The site also has a number of times table tests that your child can work on.

## English

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/> - This is the English part of the BBC's free Bitesize resources. The site contains helpful revision sections on different strands of English and also has lots of fun games, activities and quizzes.

<http://www.morewords.com/> - This is a really useful website for working on spellings and spelling patterns with your child. There are also links to lots of word games that your child can play at home, which will no doubt help to improve their spelling accuracy.

<http://www.wordtamer.co.uk/> - A really useful website if your child is thinking of writing a story at home and is stuck for ideas or is reluctant to get started. The site takes you through a deserted fairground, where you can work on different elements of story writing e.g. developing characters, describing settings etc and ultimately, write a story of your own.

## Science

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/> - This is the Science part of the BBC's free Bitesize resources. The site contains helpful revision sections on different scientific areas and also has lots of fun games, activities and quizzes.