

Year 3 Newsletter Spring Term 2 | Monday, 20th February, 2023



## Looking forward....

This term, we will continue our topic 'Extreme Earth'. In science, we will learn about nutrition, looking at both human and animal diets. We will also look at skeleton structures, recalling the names of the bones and understanding how bones and muscles work, as well as the importance of our joints. In art, we will work with oil pastels to create a cross section of a predator's eye. In geography, we will study rivers and learn about the floods across Sheffield and Rotherham. In design and technology, we will look at materials, thinking about the design process: analysing, planning, creating and evaluating as we try to make our very own flood barriers.

In computing lessons, we will begin our first coding unit using scratch and in music we will continue playing the glockenspiel. The children will also be creating their own compositions and learning about musical notation.

This term, we are very excited to take the children out of school on a school trip to visit Cannon Hall Farm. On our visit, we will visit the small mammals and reptiles that live here and listen to a variety of talks. More information will follow in due course.

PE topics will change to football and gymnastics and the children will be taught once a week by our PE specialist Mr Goddard. This does mean some changes to our PE days. PE days will now be on a Tuesday and Friday for all Year 3 classes.

## A reflection....

What a quick term this one has been! The children have continued to demonstrate their risk taking and resilience values as they challenged themselves and showed increasing independence across the curriculum. We continue to be amazed by their work ethic and how determined they are to achieve.

The children have enjoyed reading their new novel 'The Abominables' this term and making a start on our Extreme Earth topic. They have successfully created their own optical illusion tornados and fossil prints in art. In computing, we have discussed how we stay safe online. We had a parent come in to run a workshop for this too.

The children's enthusiasm for Spanish continues to grow as they have developed their vocabulary: numbers to 10, greetings and classroom instructions, as well as their confidence in their pronunciation.

Music has also been a highlight for many, as the children have completed unit 1 of learning to play the glockenspiel. They have tried so hard to read notations and play along in time with their peers.

Outside of the classroom, the children enjoyed our local field trip walk, studying the physical and human features within the school community. We used the images we took on our walk and located these on our very own street maps.



### Special mentions!

Congratulations to the children who achieved their 100% attendance for the Autumn term  
Don't forget to pass on your special mentions for the next newsletter!

## Reading....

At Sitwell Junior School, we aim to encourage children to acquire a love of reading. Part of this requires the children to be able to read fluently, so it is really important that you listen to your child read every day. This only needs to be for a short time each day, as little and often is the best approach when supporting your child with their reading.

This year, we are continuing with Marvellous Me as a way of recording your child's reading at home. Through the app, you will be able to access a link to a form that should be submitted weekly before Friday morning. If you are yet to sign up to Marvellous me, please contact the office who will be happy to help.

In addition to this, your child should have login details to Reading Eggs, a computer based programme which is tailored to your child's reading ability. The site has a wealth of reading texts and questions for your child to work through. As well as accessing this in class, they will be able to do so at home, providing you with further insight into your child's reading ability. If your child has forgotten their log in details, the class teacher can access these for them.

If your child is finding the text difficult to read, or they are struggling to remain on task when reading, it is a good idea to 'take it in turns' for example by you reading a page, your child reading a page, and so on. Children learn a lot from listening to adults reading too. After your child has read a short section, it is helpful for you to ask them some questions to check their understanding of what they have read. For example: what did Jack do when the door opened? How do you think he felt at that moment? Which word tells you he felt that way? What do you think might happen next? Your child needs to make sure they have their reading book in school every day, as there might be opportunities for them to read to an adult in school as well.

### Supporting your child at home...

**All of the objectives which we will cover in our maths, English and topic sessions are outlined on the school website. If you wish to support your child at home, or to discuss their learning with them, please use the following link:**

[Long Term Plans](#)



### P.E. Schedule

The Year 3 children will have two sessions of PE every week, with PE days on Tuesday and Friday. We ask that all children come to school in their P.E. kit on the days that they have P.E. PE kit is as follows: white t-shirt, black shorts/leggings, black pumps (indoor), black tracksuit, and trainers (outdoor).

### Twitter and Marvellous Me

If you would like to keep up-to-date with your child's learning in school, then check out the school's Twitter page. The account details are listed at the top of this letter. We also encourage you to track your child's learning on the Marvellous Me app.

### Spellings

Weekly spellings are sent home on Marvellous Me. We encourage your child to practice these before their weekly spelling test on Fridays.

### Times Tables

We encourage children to practise their times tables on Times Table Rock Stars.