Sitwell JUNIOR SCHOOL

Inspiring lives; creating possibilities; shaping futures

Year 3 Newsletter Autumn Term 2 | Monday 2nd November, 2026

Looking Back: Autumn 1…

Welcome back! We hope you have all had a lovely half-term break and hope that our children are ready and looking forward to the learning we have prepared for them over this half term.

The Year 3 children have impressed us with how quickly they have settled into our junior school, following the Sitwell 7 and 3 school rules. The children have worked hard to 'be ready' to learn, demonstrating their responsibility and resourcefulness. Their love of learning and curiosity has been infectious both in and outside of the classroom.

As well as our learning in the classroom, we also really enjoyed our visit from the school library service. We were able to get hands on with lots of Stone Age artefacts and Year 3 could confidently talk about the Stone Age knowledge they already had, as well as learn many new facts!

In addition, we also really enjoyed our community events this term, including Hello Yellow day and our Macmillan coffee morning.

Looking Forward: Autumn 2…

We are really looking forward to continuing our Stone Age, Bronze Age & Iron Age topic, learning all about prehistory and what life was like. During the term, we will move away from our history study and focus on geography. As **geographers,** we will study settlements and rivers, linking this with our history knowledge of the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age communities. We are looking forward to **our trip to Clifton Park Museum** on **Tuesday 24th November.** On this day we will be learning more about Stone Age life right here in Rotherham!

As **artists**, we will explore colour pallets, mixing and exploring different tints and tones. We will develop our brush stroke techniques and create a silhouette painting of Stonehenge.

As **musicians**, we will be learning a few Stone Age songs in preparation for our Stone Age assembly on **Friday 4th December, 13:45-14:30.** Parents will be invited along to this assembly, which will allow the children to showcase all of their wonderful learning from this topic.

As **mathematicians,** we will begin our next unit, Multiplication and Division, teaching many different strategies. We will apply our knowledge to reasoning and problem solving questions. We would appreciate your support at home with helping your child to revise and recall their times tables, in particular their 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8s.

As **writers**, we will now be working on writing non-fiction, as we write a non-chronological report about rocks. As **readers**, we will begin 'Iron Man', which we know the children are very much looking forward to.

<u>Special mentions!</u>

Congratulations to those pupils who have received a Star Learner of the Week award already this year! This term, we would love to share some special mentions. Has your child had any fantastic achievements outside of school? Maybe they have been awarded their next swimming badge or have moved to the next grade in their music lessons. Please send in a note or ask your child to mention this to their teacher so that we can add it to the next newsletter!

Supporting your Year 3 Child at Home

Below you will find links to recommended online resources that you and your child may find useful to further their learning.

At Sitwell, we understand the importance of **all** children being **fluent readers**, a life-skill that underpins any learning in all subjects. Our aim is for all children to **read often**, **read widely** and to develop **a love of reading**. Therefore, when supporting your child or encouraging them to further their learning independently, **please always make reading the priority**. Click here and here for tips on reading with your child.

Reading, the instant recall of **times tables** up to 12 x 12 and your child's **weekly spellings** are the best places to start when supporting your child. All other suggestions below should be seen as a bonus should you or your child wish to make use of them.

If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher. Thank you for your continued support!

Our Curriculum

Please click here for our **Long Term Plans** which provide an overview of what your child will be learning in each subject each half-term. These plans will help keep you informed about what your child is learning at school so that you can support them at home and/or discuss their learning with them.

Reading

School reading books: Every day, your child should bring home a **fiction** or **non-fiction** book from the Year 3 Reading Spine. If your child is working on phonics, then they will also bring home a phonics book too. It really is vital that children engage with these books as they have been carefully selected to broaden children's knowledge, build their vocabulary and allow them to explore different themes.

Reading Logs: Please record your child's reading at home in their reading diary by **Friday morning** each week. We strongly encourage all children to read at home for at least **15 minutes** at least **4 times per week**. The most important thing your child can do above **anything else** is read as much and as widely as possible!

Spelling

Click here for your child's weekly spellings.

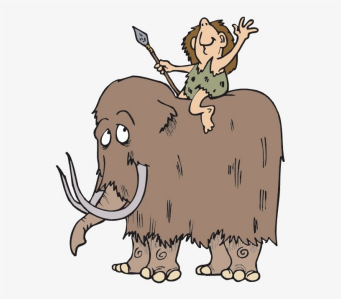
Maths

Times Tables Rockstars: This is a resource that your child will become very familiar with! It is a great way, but not the only way, for your child to develop confidence and master their tables up to 12 x 12. Towards the end of the week, your child will receive login details for this website.

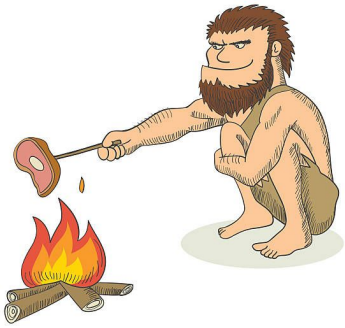
White Rose Maths - Video Lessons: Click here to find **video lessons** for each maths lesson your child is taught at school. First, select your child's year group and then the relevant 'block' (e.g. Place Value). We recommend working through each video of a specific block **after** your child has completed the corresponding lesson at school.

White Rose Maths - Workbooks: Click here for some **free maths workbooks** with answers included. First, select your child's year group. Here you will find a workbook for each 'block' of learning. To make the most of this resource, we recommend working through each workbook **after** your child has completed that block of learning at school. We also recommend having a look at the corresponding workbooks of previous year groups to increase your child's confidence and retention (e.g. a year 5 child could look at the year 3, 4 and 5 fractions workbooks, as appropriate).

Maths Bot: Click here for a brilliant online resource which makes the most of Artificial Intelligence! Maths Bot is free and instantly generates arithmetic questions, both mixed practice or on one specific topic. Once you input your answers, it even marks it for you.



Year 3 Home Learning
Autumn Term



Below are some home learning project ideas related to this term's topic, 'The Stone Age'. This home learning encourages the children to become investigative learners and to develop their enquiry skills, independence and creativity.

This term's second project needs to be completed and returned to school by **Monday 14th December**. If your child needs any paper, or other resources that school can provide, please encourage them to ask their class teacher.

Project Ideas

- Create some Stone Age pottery.
- Visit Creswell Crags. Remember to take plenty of photographs to share your experience with your friends.
- Build a shelter and capture your creation in a photograph to show your classmates.
- Dress up like a caveman for the day. Think about how they would behave.
- Go to the beach on a fossil hunt. What did you find? Take images to show the rest of your class.
- Use natural resources from outside to create your own cave painting.
- Take a camping trip to see what it may have been like to live in the Stone Age.
- Write a visitor's guide to Stonehenge.
- Have a go at fishing.
- Grow your own vegetables.
- Make some Stone Age bread, oatcakes or fruit stew and bring it into school to share with your peers.
- Create a Stone Age tool or weapon.
- Make a model of Stonehenge.
- Research a Stone Age animal of your choice and create an information poster with your findings.

Please can you make sure your child brings their project into school on Monday 14th December.

This will give time for the children to share their projects with the rest of the class before the end of the term.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Evans, Miss Houghton and Mr Padmore.

The Year 3 Team