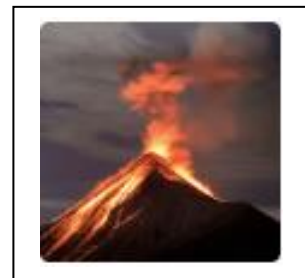


## Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter – Spring Term 2024

Please read this termly newsletter, it is intended to help you to assist your son or daughter with their studies and is an extension of our home-school partnership. In such a newsletter, we can only provide a brief outline, but we hope it will give some idea of the areas that we shall be covering this term. Other information can also be found on our website – [www.heronsgate.org.uk](http://www.heronsgate.org.uk).

### **Year 3 Staff**

Nightingales: Mrs Jin  
Wrens: Mrs Brockbank / Mrs Wilcox (Friday)  
Sparrows: Miss Viveiros



### **CURRICULUM NEWS – Spring Term. Geography – Rocks, Relics and Rumbles**

In the Rocks, Relics and Rumbles project, your child will learn about the features and characteristics of Earth's layers, including a detailed exploration of volcanic, tectonic and seismic activity.

**English:** We will be focus on writing a range of different text types, including:

Non-chronological reports, explanations, writing instructions, persuasive writing, recounts and poetry. There will be a strong emphasis on talking and rehearsing before writing, as well as reading, editing and improving written work.

**Spellings:** Children will focus on 10 words a week, which will be sent home with the half termly homework project. Whilst we will practice these through our 'Fast Learning' sessions of which there are four per week, it would be highly beneficial for them to practise these at home too. All children will have the year 3 words to learn. Any children learning set 1 and 2 words will practice these, through interventions.

**Guided Reading:** Guided reading sessions will take place 4 times a week. During these sessions, children will take part in focused reading activities to develop their understanding of different text types and become immersed in a class text. They will be encouraged to ask questions and make appropriate inferences based on what they have read.

**Maths:** There will be a focus on how to use a written method for multiplication, division and fractions. We will continue to support understanding of place value and the written methods for addition and subtraction as well as looking at word problems and using bar models. Children will be practicing their times table facts through regular access to TT Rockstars twice a week at school, but further practice at home is strongly encouraged.

**Art:** Our art unit Power Prints teaches children how to use a sketchbook for a wide range of purposes, for example recording things, drawings and annotations, planning and taking next steps when evaluating art processes.

**Science:** In the Animal Nutrition and the Skeletal Systems project, children will revisit prior learning about living things, including how animals can be carnivores, herbivores or omnivores, needing food, water, air, shelter, sleep and space to reproduce and survive. They will use the term 'nutrition', learning that it is a life process by which all living things get or make food including comparing the diets of different animals, including carnivores, herbivores and omnivores, revisiting learning about how animals' diets change with the seasons.

**Computing:** Our computing lessons will develop pupils' knowledge across digital literacy, online safety, computational thinking, how computers work and hardware.

**PE:** Children will have two sessions per week, one outdoors ('Games') and one indoors ('P.E.'). This is a compulsory part of the curriculum and to maximise the time the children are active; they are allowed to attend school on these days 'PE ready'. This means your child is expected to attend school in their P.E. kit on the days they have P.E. and Games lessons. In the first half term, the children will develop their abilities through gym, netball, rounders and OAA.

**PE READY DAYS:** Children come to school in PE kit.

Nightingales: Monday and Tuesday

Wrens: Tuesday and Wednesday

Sparrows: Tuesday and Wednesday

**Forest School:** During the spring term year 3 will continue weekly forest school sessions, weather permitting. Class day will be confirmed through parent mail.

**PSHE:** We use a program called jigsaw to deliver our PHSE which has been developed to support the emotional development of children in Year 3.

**Homework:** Half termly projects linked to the topic will continue to be set, with a choice of different styles of presentation for children to choose from. They may complete one or two tasks. It must be completed to a high standard and handed in on or before the last Monday of each half term. All homework projects will be shared with the class and 5 Marvelous Me points awarded for effort, content and presentation. In addition, a weekly Maths activity will be sent home on Mondays and will be due in by Thursday of the same week. This will alternate between a my maths activity, which will be automatically marked online and they will be given a homework book to stick their homework into on the following week. The task will be marked with the teacher before the next week's homework is handed out. Maths homework will be rewarded with 1 MME point, if brought in on time.

### **How can you support your child at home?**

- Hear your child read at least 3 times a week.
- Encourage them to practise their weekly spellings, TTRockstars and SUMDOG
- Encourage them to use their mental maths to add, subtract, multiply and divide numbers in everyday life, for example there are 7 weeks left of term – how many days at school is that?
- Support your child in learning to tell the time.
- Support them with their homework projects – we don't mind if it is a team effort!

### **TRIPS & ACTIVITIES:**

During the second half of the Spring term, we have arranged for Safari Stu to visit and share information about animal / reptile skeletal systems and nutrition. Further information will be sent out via Parent Mail during Spring term 1.

