

CHRISTCHURCH JUNIOR SCHOOL

YEAR 3 AUTUMN TERM 2020

WELCOME

We hope that your children feel they have settled at CJS. The Year 3 teachers have been very impressed with the positive start the children have made. We are all very excited about this year and hope the children will enjoy all the opportunities available.

ENGLISH

We will begin the year by creating both factual and fun instructions. This will be followed by a retelling of the story 'Cave Baby'. Following on from our planned trip to Cranborne, we will be writing recounts and thank you letters. As we move into the second half of this term, we will read all about the antics of Stone Age Boy and the pupils will write their very own version of this.

MATHEMATICS

At first, we will concentrate on ensuring that the children have secure number skills and can choose and apply appropriate methods in problem solving. Real life maths will continue to be central to our teaching and learning. It would be helpful, therefore, if children could be encouraged to apply their maths at home, e.g. telling the time, working out change when shopping, measuring amounts for baking, etc. Year 3 will follow the Maths No Problem curriculum. Pupils will develop their fluency (quick and efficient recall of number facts and times tables) and calculation strategies alongside reasoning and problem solving.

COMPUTING

We will be using computers to focus on text and graphics. We also aim to develop children's keyboard skills using Microsoft Word and to teach them how to stay safe whilst using the internet.

To support their typing skills, browse: BBC dance mat typing program.

SCIENCE

In Science, we will be encouraging children to answer questions, such as, "What is a fossil?", "Where do they come from?" and "What lies beneath our feet?" as part of our 'Raging Rocks' project.

During the second half term, we will be encouraging children to answer questions such as, "What is light?" and "Where does darkness come from?" as part of our 'Light the Night' project.

FRENCH

A specialist teacher from Twynham School will be teaching the children French every week. The children will be introduced to the language in short bursts to help begin to develop their general conversation skills. They will also receive a block of lessons focussing on conversational French each term.

HISTORY

This year sees us embark on a unit tracking the progress from Stone Age to Iron Age. Much of this learning will be practical and will include a field trip to Cranborne Ancient Technology Centre.

GEOGRAPHY

Towards the end of the second half of the term, we will be studying the features of a map and visiting the landscapes of the Polar Regions.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We will be focusing on: "What is faith and what difference does it make?". We will follow this with a study of celebrations from around the world.

MUSIC

This term we will be exploring rhythm patterns using a rhythm square. Children will be using body percussion and untuned percussion instruments to perform and compose their own rhythms recording them in a rhythm square. We will then be composing melodies using the pentatonic scale.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND GAMES

Indoor PE lessons will take place on a Monday for 3BB, Tuesday for 3GF and 3SC and Wednesday for 3DH.

The children will be taught Gymnastics and Dance in the main hall by Miss Binney. They will initially focus on posture and the basic principles of gymnastics.

Outdoor Games lessons will take place on a Thursday for 3BM and 3DH and Friday for 3GF and 3SC.

Our Games lessons will initially focus on developing multi-skills (movement skills), including circuit style activities to increase speed, agility, balance, coordination and stamina. As the term progresses, netball and football skills will be taught.

Please ensure that all PE kit is named, in a bag and in school at all times. Shoulder length hair should be tied back (boys and girls) and all jewellery removed. Newly pierced ears must be covered with tape supplied from home.

ART AND DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

In Art, we will begin by looking at Expressionism and the children will be creating some colourful and thoughtful pictures about themselves.

As the term comes to an end, we will be creating hand puppets – designing and sewing our very own characters!

HOME LEARNING

Home Learning

A Home Learning folder will be coming home. We will let you know more about this nearer the time.

Times Tables

In Key Stage 1 children are expected to have learnt their 2, 5 and 10 multiplication and division facts. We will spend the first half of this term recapping these. Following on from this learning, pupils in Year 3 are expected to know and quickly recall multiplication and division facts for 3, 4 and 8.

Spellings

Spellings and Phonics will be taught regularly at school. The children will also bring spellings home. These support the spelling badges they can achieve.

Reading

Children are also expected to read at least four times a week outside of school

REQUEST FOR HELP!

Unfortunately, we are not currently able to accept volunteers in the school due to the pandemic. However, if and when things change and you are able to give up some time to come into school as a volunteer reader or class helper, please contact the school office. We do require a DBS check to be carried out if you are working with children in school on a regular basis.

If you have any concerns or queries regarding your child's education or wellbeing, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher.

We look forward to a happy and successful term.

Miss G Foster
3GF

Mrs Broadwell and Miss Bartlett
3BB

Miss Chamberlain
3SC

Mr Hagger
3DH