Year Three
Autumn 2

English

Our class text this half term is 'The Ice Palace' by Robert Swindells. This is an exciting adventure story with a twist at the end. It is a great book to read allowed with children.

In our English lessons we will begin by developing our story writing, focusing on characterisation. The model text that we will be learning is called 'Midas'. This is a character flaw story. We will explore similar texts and their features focusing particularly on use of speech, finding ways to reveal things about a character through the use of expression and by revealing a character's desires or fears throughout the story in order to fully understand the character. We will then apply this to similar stories which can be used in independent pieces. The children will develop more consistency in writing in the past tense, using time conjunctions and work around pronouns.

We will also be exploring discussion texts. Children will learn a text which discusses the pros and cons of wearing school uniform. Children will write their own discussion based on another area of interest using their learning from the discussion toolkit.

We will be consolidating spelling rules and developing a greater understanding of suffixes including the -ing, -er, ed and -ly, ending. We will be exploring diagraphs and tetragraphs. Children have explicit spelling sessions to teach spelling strategies using the Spelling Shed scheme. Children have access to SpellingFrame online to support their spelling recall.

Children are also now becoming more familiar with our handwriting scheme from Cambridge Pen pals. Children are developing a cursive join during daily handwriting sessions per week and are encouraged to use this in their writing across the curriculum.

As part of our transcription work, children will complete one dictated sentence per day in their transcription books.

Mathematics

Our main focus for this half term is further work on addition and subtraction (Unit 3 Power Maths). This unit develops a depth of understanding of the key skills of formal addition and subtraction through place value, checking strategies and mental methods. Children will use their growing understanding to explore calculations which do or do not require exchange, developing fluency, accuracy and confidence in their ability to perform these calculations. They will be able to apply checking strategies to decide for themselves whether their answer is reasonable or likely to be an error.

Following on from Unit 3, children will be working on multiplication and division. This unit is important because it builds on recognising equal groups. Three lessons are spent exploring in depth each of the times-tables that children need to know in Year 3, encouraging rapid recall. Children are reminded of the difference between equal sharing and equal grouping and then move on to look at when division problems may have a remainder of sorts. Although a full understanding of remainder is not essential in Year 3, children do need to have a basic understanding of it. There are two lessons that focus on problem solving, and using the bar model to represent simple one-step multiplication and division problems. This reinforces multiplication as repeated addition. Children then move on to solve simple two-step problems that involve all of the four operations

Children have access to TT Rockstars and are encouraged to log on at home to practise the times table facts that we are working on in class. Children should now be secure in their 2,5 and 10 times tables. We are developing a deeper understanding of the 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

Vocabulary

add, addition subtract, subtraction total, altogether exchange part-whole, whole, part place value hundreds (100s), tens (10s), ones (1s) column method mental method, mentally estimate, estimation approximate, approx., approximation, approximately, about fact family bar model digits multiple logically function machine

equal groups, unequal groups, shared equally multiply (×), multiplication statement, multiplication fact, multiplication sentence, divide (÷), division statement, division fact times-table group, share whole, le over, remainder one-step, two-step, multi-step array, bar

	model, number line pattern count up, total, double, method repeated addition
Science Our second Science unit is all about forces and magnets. Children will learn that a force is a push or a pull. When an object moves on a surface, the texture of the surface and the object affect how it moves. It may help the object to move better or it may hinder its movement e.g. ice skater compared to walking on ice in normal shoes. Children will get to handle different magnets and carry out activities with them. A magnet attracts magnetic material. Children will test different materials to decide if they are magnetic or not. The strongest parts of a magnet are the poles. Children will learn that magnets have two poles – a north pole and a south pole. If two like poles, e.g. two north poles, are brought together they will push away from each other – repel. If two unlike poles, e.g. a north and south, are brought together they will pull together – attract. **Vocabulary** Force, push, pull, twist, contact force, non-contact force, magnetic force, magnet, strength, bar magnet, ring magnet, button magnet, horseshoe magnet, attract, repel, magnetic material, metal, iron, steel, poles, north pole, south pole	**History** As history was the focus for last half term, there will be no formal history lessons this term.
Art/Design & Technology We will be exploring the work of Francis Ferdinand Maurice Cook (1907-1978) – He painted a piece called 'Bowl of Fruit with Pineapple' The children will use a range of media including water colour crayons and experiment with different effects and textures. They will mix colour, shade and tones with increasing confidence to work towards a fruit bowl piece of their own. These skills will be used to create this year's Christmas card.	**Physical Education** In P.E we will be using our P.E scheme- imoves. The children will be developing their fundamental skills under the resilience and persistence heading. They will be learning a dance routine using 70s disco dancing music.
Personal, Social and Emotional development. In PHSE the children will be learning about relationships, loss and separation. Staff will be tackling these issues sensitively in a range of carefully planned lessons. Children will explore different familiars and consider ways to have time out to rest and consider mindfulness time. Children will find ways to help others who are experiencing loss. Activities will be recorded within the class 'floor book' which can be referred to by all when needed.	**Geography** Geography is the main focus within this half term. We will be developing our understanding of the world and map reading techniques. During this unit, children will learn that near to the equator are two imaginary lines called the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn. Places between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn are known as tropical. They have a hot climate all year round. Children will locate countries within this area using globes and digital technology. Running from north to south is another imaginary line called the Prime Meridian. This splits the Earth into two more hemispheres: the western hemisphere and the eastern hemisphere. Latitude and longitude are a system of lines used to describe the location of any place on Earth. Lines of latitude run in an east–west direction across Earth. Lines of longitude run in a north–south direction. Children will find these lines in atlases and on maps. They will be able to explain their own views about locations giving reasons from their newfound learning about their climate.

	Equator, Tropic of Capricorn, Tropic of Cancer, Prime Meridian, eastern hemisphere, western hemisphere, latitude, longitude, time zones.
Religious Education Christianity The children will continue to learn about inspirational people and will be answering the key question 'What makes Jesus inspirational for some people?'. Children will hear stories from the Bible about Jesus in order to explain why Christians think that Jesus is an inspirational person. During this time, children will be learning more about Christmas.	**Music** The children are working on a selection of songs for the Christmas performance.
Spanish In Spanish the children will revise greetings as we work from a scheme called ilanguages. Children will continue to use basic commands to use around the classroom, playing fun games such as 'Simon says' to reinforce the commands. New learning will include simple words for pets and will then move on to other animals. Children will learn the names of different colours and use simple sentences.	
Visits and Visitors Magna 17th November Fire service visit 10th November	
How can you help at home? *Please encourage your child to participate in our Redscope Reading Challenge. We have a range of fantastic age-appropriate books which are perfect to share as a family. All children should be reading for 15 minutes at least three times per week and these sessions should be logged in their planner. *All children will be given appropriate spellings during the week. These may be topic related words or link to a spelling rule they have learnt throughout the week. Please support your child in learning their spellings at home. *In maths, please encourage your child to access TT Rockstars to practise the quick recall of times table facts. There will be regular TTRockstars battles available for the children to take part in as well as whole school competitions. *As part of our Stone Age topic, all children should complete a project that they are interested in. We have discussed possibilities with the children and a list of some ideas have been attached in their planner. If you do have any questions about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to contact us through the class dojo.	