

The Year 3/ 4 News Flash

A new school year is underway and Year 3/4 are ready for an exciting year of learning! We have lots to look forward to this term, from meeting The Iron Man and The Wild Robot, to investigating forces and magnets, stepping back in time to discover how children's lives have changed and even experiencing how children's lives have changed at Port Sunlight. Here's a little look at what's happening in Year 3/4 this Autumn...

Maths

During the Autumn Term, children will begin by developing their understanding of place value, before moving on to addition and subtraction, with a strong focus on mental maths, fluency, problem-solving and reasoning.

In Autumn 2, Year 3 will move on to multiplication and division, while Year 4 will develop their understanding of shape and perimeter before beginning multiplication and division.

Throughout the term, we will regularly revisit key number skills to help children become confident and fluent mathematicians.

★ Times Tables Rock Stars

Please make sure you have your child's Times Tables Rock Stars login from their class teacher so they can practise regularly at home and start earning their place on our Year 3/4 leaderboard!



English

This half term, our English learning will be inspired by The Iron Man by Ted Hughes. Children will explore the story and develop their writing skills by creating an exciting approach-threat narrative, before writing an explanation about how to capture the Iron Man.

Our Drop It and Read class text will be The Wild Robot by Peter Brown, which we will enjoy together while developing children's vocabulary, comprehension, discussion skills and love of reading.



Port Sunlight Trip - Friday 16th October

As part of our History topic, 'How Have Children's Lives Changed?', Year 3/4 will be visiting Port Sunlight Village on Friday 16th October.

The children will take part in an exciting hands-on History experience, helping them discover how children's lives have changed over time. Through exploring school life, household chores, toys and games from the past, they will be able to compare childhood then with their own experiences today.

Children should wear full school uniform and bring a packed lunch in a named disposable bag, unless a school packed lunch has been ordered.

We will travel by coach. Further information regarding timings, payment and consent via Arbor will follow shortly.

Spellings – An Important Change

This year, we are making a change to how spellings are taught and practised at home. We will now be using Ready Steady Spell and children will no longer use Spelling Frame.

Each week, your child's spellings will be uploaded to ClassDojo and a hard copy will also be sent home on Fridays.

Please encourage your child to practise these regularly in preparation for their spelling test every Friday.



History & Geography

Our History enquiry this half term is 'How have children's lives changed?', exploring how school, home life, work and leisure have changed over time. Our Port Sunlight visit will bring this learning to life.

In Autumn 2, we move into Geography to investigate 'Who lives in Antarctica?', exploring its people, wildlife and environment.

Our Wider Curriculum

There's lots more to look forward to across the Autumn Term! In Art, children will explore Sculpture and 3D: Mega Materials, experimenting with materials to create their own artwork. In RE, we will learn about Buddhism before exploring the Christian question, 'Why are angels good examples to follow?'

In PSHE, we will focus on mental health and wellbeing, exploring Me, My Friends and Belonging, before learning how to recognise and manage risks. In Computing, children will begin with Route Planners, followed by creating presentations using Microsoft, Apple and Google.

In Autumn 2, DT will focus on Digital World: Mindful Moments Timer, giving children the opportunity to develop their design and technology skills. In French, we begin with 'This is Me' and 'School Days', while Autumn 2 will include BSL. Our Music learning we will explore Rock and Roll and Ballads.

Science

We begin the year with Forces and Magnets, where children will investigate different forces and explore how magnets work through practical scientific enquiry. In Autumn 2, we will move on to States of Matter, exploring solids, liquids and gases and how materials can change from one state to another.

How you can help us

- Support your child's learning with a 'little and often' approach at home. Regular practice of key skills really helps to build confidence.
- Read regularly at home. Children will bring a reading book home each Friday to enjoy over the weekend. Please return the book on Monday so that it can be changed and children can continue reading regularly during ERIC and with their class teacher.
- Practise the weekly Ready Steady Spell spellings that sent will be home on Fridays and uploaded to ClassDojo, ready for our spelling test on the following Friday.
- Encourage regular Times Tables Rock Stars practice. Please ask your child's teacher for their login details if needed so they can join our Year 3/4 leaderboard! Watch this space for our Rock Stars Day!
- Weekly Maths homework is set on Purple Mash. Please let us know if you have any problems accessing it.
- Keep connected with us through ClassDojo, where we will share updates, reminders, key information and photos celebrating what we've been getting up to in Year 3/4. Please note that ClassDojo is used for sharing information rather than direct communication with teachers. If you need to contact your child's teacher directly, please do so through the school office.
- Most importantly, please talk to us if you have any questions, worries or concerns. We are always happy to help.