



Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn term (1) 2026

Please find information listed about the curriculum which will be taught throughout this half term.

Subject	Topic this half term	Additional notes
English	<u>Reading</u> This term, Year 3 will be dedicating 30 minutes each morning, after assembly, to whole class reading. We follow the <i>Pathways to Read</i> programme, which helps children develop key reading skills such as prediction, retrieval, vocabulary understanding, and inference. Our first text is <i>The Egyptian Cinderella</i> by Shirley Climo, which links perfectly with our history topic on Ancient Egypt. Through this story, children will explore themes of traditional tales, make comparisons with other well-known versions of Cinderella, and deepen their comprehension skills while also making meaningful connections to their wider learning. <u>Writing</u> In our writing lessons this term, we are also using <i>The Egyptian Cinderella</i> as our main text. Following <i>The Write Stuff</i> approach, children will be learning to develop their ideas through different "lenses," such as the feeling lens, smelling lens, and action lens. These lenses help pupils to expand their vocabulary and bring their writing to life by focusing on emotions, senses, and movement within a scene. The story provides a fantastic backdrop for creating vivid descriptions and imaginative narratives, while also supporting children to structure and improve their writing step by step.	<u>Spellings</u> Spellings will be sent home every Friday. We encourage the children to practise these at home during the week, as there will be a spelling test the following Friday. Regular practice helps to build accuracy and confidence in spelling, which supports progress in both reading and writing. <u>Reading</u> Children will bring home a reading book to enjoy and share with you. Books can be swapped on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, so please ensure they are brought into school on these days if your child is ready to change them. Regular reading at home makes a big difference to progress, so we encourage children to read a little each day and talk about their book with you.
Maths	<u>Place Value</u> This term, Year 3 are starting with a focus on place value. The children will be learning to understand the value of each digit in three-digit numbers, practise representing numbers in different ways, and compare and order numbers up to 1,000. This important foundation will support their	Maths at home! To support your child's learning in maths, we encourage regular practice at home with multiplication and division facts. In Year 3, children focus on the 3, 4 and 8 times tables, as well as continuing to build fluency



	confidence with calculations throughout the year. <u>Number</u> Following our work on place value, we will move on to developing our skills in addition and subtraction. The children will learn a range of strategies, including mental methods and written methods, and will be encouraged to explain their thinking. We will also continue practising times tables, as secure number facts are vital for success in all areas of maths.	with the 2, 5 and 10 times tables from Year 2. Quick recall of these facts will really help them with more complex calculations in class. Playing games, chanting times tables, using online resources such as Times Tables Rock Stars, or practising little and often for a few minutes each day can make a big difference to their confidence and progress.
R.E	<u>What is it like for someone to follow God?</u> In RE this term, our big question is: "What is it like for someone to follow God?" The children will be learning about stories from the Bible, including the story of Noah, and thinking about what these stories teach Christians about trust, obedience, and faith. We will explore how Christians today try to live their lives following God's guidance and reflect on what lessons we can learn about making good choices and caring for others.	
Computing	<u>Coding with Scratch</u> In Computing this term, Year 3 will be developing their coding skills using Scratch with Mrs Weikert. The children will learn how to create and edit simple programs, giving commands to make characters move, speak, and interact. They will also explore how to use loops and sequences to make their code more efficient. These activities will help build problem-solving skills, creativity, and logical thinking, while giving the children a fun introduction to programming.	
Science	<u>Rocks & Soils</u> This term in Science, Year 3 will be learning with Mrs Blackhurst and exploring the topic of rocks and soils. The children will investigate different types of rocks, how they are formed, and their uses in everyday life. They will also explore how soils are made and compare their properties through hands-on investigations. This topic	



	will give the children plenty of opportunities to ask scientific questions, carry out experiments, and record their findings.	
PSHE	<u>Me and my relationships</u> In this unit, children explore their relationships with family, friends, and others. They will learn how to communicate kindly, understand and manage their feelings, and respect differences. Through discussions and activities, pupils will develop the skills to build positive friendships, resolve conflicts, and recognise healthy relationships.	
History	<u>How can we discover the wonders of ancient Egypt?</u> In this topic, children will journey back in time to explore the wonders of Ancient Egypt, including the mysteries of the pyramids, the life of pharaohs, and everyday life along the Nile. They will learn about famous figures such as Alexander the Great and the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb, developing their understanding of historical events and their significance. Through stories, research, and writing activities linked to our English lessons, pupils will practise asking questions, analysing evidence, and sharing their ideas. Later in the term, we hope to visit Bolton Museum to see real Egyptian artefacts, making history tangible and inspiring curiosity and creativity.	
Art/ DT	<u>Drawing - Focusing on shapes, shading and texture</u> In this unit, children will develop their drawing skills by exploring shapes, shading, and texture. Using Ancient Egyptian artefacts as inspiration, they will practise techniques to show depth, form, and detail in their work. Pupils will study the patterns, symbols, and designs found in Egyptian art, and use these to create their own drawings of artefacts such as jewellery, statues, and hieroglyphs. This project links to our History topic, helping children to understand and express what they have learned about Ancient Egypt through visual art.	
P.E.	<u>Ball Skills</u> In PE this term, children will develop their ball skills, including passing, dribbling, and aiming with control and accuracy. They will	Please ensure your child wears the correct PE kit and <u>does not</u> wear earrings on PE days. Thank you!



	also take part in team-based challenges inspired by Commando Joe's "Nellie Bly" missions, which encourage problem-solving, communication, and resilience. Through these activities, pupils will build coordination, teamwork, and confidence while having fun and staying active.	P.E days are Tuesday & Thursday
Music	This term, the children will be exploring rhythmic patterns. With activities designed to get everyone up and moving, the children will learn to identify rhythms and play them using body percussion, instruments and plastic cups! They will explore call-and-response techniques used in a range of songs and have fun creating their own call-and-response (question and answer) phrases. The children will develop their ensemble skills, learning to perform simple rhythmic ostinatos to accompany a song or poem. They will sing songs influenced by different musical styles such as Blues and Rock 'n' Roll and listen out for simple stylistic features in music such as <i>Hound Dog</i> by Elvis Presley and <i>Rock Around The Clock</i> by Bill Haley & His Comets. The children will move on to composing and notating simple rhythmic patterns using different forms of graphic notation.	

Other Useful Information

Equipment

Just a reminder about equipment. Children may bring to school:

- A small book bag and packed lunch box. (named on the outside please!)
- No pencil cases are required– stationery will be provided.
- A small, named bottle of plain water every day please.
- Children may bring a piece of fruit for their morning snack
- Pumps for indoor games in a named pump bag.

Please ensure that children come to school wearing **full school uniform, including the correct school shoes.** Trainers should not be worn unless a note has been sent in to the class teacher or Headteacher beforehand, or a conversation has taken place explaining why suitable school shoes are not currently available.

Please also remember that **jewellery is not permitted**, with the exception of a simple watch. **Smart watches or watches with internet access are not permitted in school.**

Please ensure that **all items of clothing and belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name**, particularly cardigans and jumpers, as these are easily misplaced.

TTRockstars

I strongly encourage all children to use **TTRockstars** regularly at home and to work towards



getting their heatmap green. This is a fantastic way to build confidence and improve their times-tables skills.

Every Friday, certificates will be awarded for:

- ★ The most time played
- 🪙 The most coins earned
- 📈 The most improved player

Homework and Spellings

Homework and spellings will be sent home every **Friday**.

Homework is due back in on the following Wednesday. Please encourage your child to complete their homework carefully and to practise their spellings regularly throughout the week.

Reading and Library Books

Library book day: Friday

Reading book days: Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Children will change their reading books **independently** on these days. Once they have chosen their new book, they should take it to **Miss Chambers** to be signed.

Thank you for your continued support in helping the children develop positive routines and become increasingly independent learners.

A note for children and parents from Miss Quinlan

Dear Parents and Children,

We've had a wonderful first week in class! The children have all settled in so well and it's been a joy getting to know them.

We've been busy with some brilliant activities, including building marshmallow and spaghetti towers, though it did get a bit sticky, it was great fun for everyone! The children have also enjoyed decorating our class door and using pupil voice to create our class charter, helping to make our classroom a welcoming and happy place for all. I am very proud of all of them for making such a fantastic start to the school year.

I'm really looking forward to a fantastic term ahead, full of learning, laughter, and exciting new experiences!

Warm regards,

Miss Quinlan

Year 3 Class Teacher