



Barkisland CE (VA) Primary School
WE BELIEVE, WE NURTURE, WE SUCCEED!

Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

- This newsletter will give you an overview of your child's learning this term.
- If you have any further questions or would like to discuss anything in more detail, please make an appointment to speak or meet with me.

Thank you - Miss Walsh

Autumn Term 2025



English



Our English work will be linked to our topic, building on our knowledge learnt in our history lessons. Our learning will be centred around the following texts; 'Stone Age Boy' and 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth'. We will explore these key texts in detail which will help us to plan and produce a range of fiction and non-fiction, particularly instruction writing, recounts and poetry writing. We will be looking at poems with a repeated pattern, and will be introducing our memorable poem—Hot Food by Michael Rosen. In SPAG we will be focussing on word classes, using a/an accurately and conjunctions. Our Spelling rules for the term can be found on the Talking Homework on Class Dojo. Spellings will also be sent home on bookmarks.



Mathematics



During the Autumn term, our Maths lessons will focus on the following key skills:



- Place value
- Addition and subtraction
- Multiplication and Division

Please see the separate Maths Overview for more detail.

Mymaths will be used to challenge and consolidate their learning and set as homework each week on a Wednesday.



Additional Information

Miss Walsh teaches in Year 3, with Mrs Bromley covering on a Tuesday afternoon for PPA.

Please feel free to message the admin email address for any questions, concerns or messages as Class Dojo is only checked once per week and is used for homework only.

Many thanks.



Science

In Science this half term, Year 3 will be exploring *Rocks and Soils*. Children will learn how to compare and group different types of rocks, investigate their properties, and understand how fossils are formed. They will also discover how soil is made and why it is important. This builds on their earlier learning about materials in Key Stage 1 and prepares them for future work on states of matter and the rock cycle in upper Key Stage 2. Along the way, pupils will develop their *working scientifically* skills by asking questions, making careful observations, setting up simple comparative tests, and recording their findings in different ways.



Religious Education

In RE, we will be exploring, 'What are the deeper meanings of festivals?' for our Autumn 1 unit. This learning will cover a range of different religions. In Autumn 2, we will be considering the question, 'What kind of world did Jesus want?' Look out for more information on our RE day on 25th November.

Computing



In Autumn 1 our topic is E-Safety. E-Safety is embedded in all of our lessons but this unit develops the knowledge, understanding and skills necessary for being a safe and responsible digital citizen. In Autumn 2 we will explore programming. This unit of work introduces the children to a visual programming language. Using the context of games development, it will engage the children in creatively developing their own simple animations.

History



Our topic this term is a history topic: Stone Age to Iron Age. In this unit, children learn about prehistory in Britain, and how we find out about prehistory. They discover what life was like through each of the main time periods of the Stone Age, right through to the Iron Age. Children find out about how civilisation started, how agriculture became a huge driving force for things like stone circles to be built and how different metals such as bronze and iron changed the way we interacted with each other and created huge defensive earthworks that we can even see and walk today. This unit builds upon previous learning in KS1, where children will have developed a strong basis of using historical disciplines such as chronology, similarity and difference, cause and consequence and handling historical artefacts. The substantive concepts explicitly taught are: Migration, Settlement, Trade, Civilisation, Industry.



Physical Education

Our PE sessions will be taking place on Wednesdays (indoor) and Fridays (outdoor). A full PE kit for indoors and outdoors will be required on these days, including sky blue t-shirt, navy or black shorts and pumps for indoors, and a tracksuit top or school hoodie and joggers for outside.

Our topics are as follows: Autumn 1 Indoor: 'Fundamentals.' In this unit pupils will develop the fundamental skills of balancing, running, jumping, hopping and skipping. Autumn 1 Outdoor: 'Ball Skills'. Pupils have opportunities to develop a variety of ball skills. They will develop tracking a ball when dribbling with hands, feet, throwing and catching and kicking. Autumn 2 Indoor: 'Fitness'. Pupils are exposed to a range of activities that explore and develop different areas of their health and fitness. Pupils will learn that being fit means having strong, healthy bodies and more energy for everyday life activities. Autumn 2 Outdoor: 'Football'. Pupils will develop their understanding of the attacking and defending principles of invasion games.

During the school week, we will be participating in the Daily Mile, with the aim of running a mile a day around our running track.

Homework



Homework is set on a Wednesday and is due in on a Monday. It comprises of:

- Talking Homework—this is available on Class Dojo.
- My Maths activities
- English Activity —this is also available on Class DOjo.

The purpose of Talking Homework is to enable you to engage in conversations about various areas of your child's learning. My Maths will usually be linked to our current area of learning, or it may be consolidation of previously taught learning.

Other ways to support your child in their learning:

- Engaging and supporting your child with the above homeworks
- Reading and talking about books every day
- Helping your child practice their spellings. Spellings will be tested at the end of each 3 week block on a Friday.
- Practicing times tables (2s, 5s and 10s from Year 2. In Year 3 we will learn our 3s, 4s and 8s).

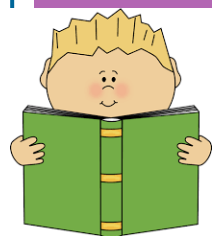
PSHE



Our theme for Autumn 1 in PSHE is: 'What is a positive healthy friendship?' We will be considering:

- What is a positive, healthy friendship
- Recognising when a relationship makes you feel unsafe or uncomfortable
- Importance of friendships, strategies for building positive friendships
- Importance of seeking support when lonely or excluded
- Resolving disputes and reconciling differences positively and safely

In Autumn 2, our focus is relationships: 'What are families like?' We will also have our annual Inclusivity Week.



Reading

In Year 3, reading will be a huge focus this year. We have a fabulous library of books to choose from and a cosy book corner.

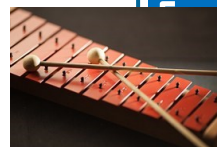
Some children are continuing on Monster Phonics. They will have a group Guided Reading session every week and also read 1:1 with an adult as frequently as is possible. Monster Phonics reading books will be sent home to those children after their Guided Reading session and should be read with your child every day. These books need to be returned the following week ready for their next Monster Phonics Guided Reading session where they will receive a new book. Children can also choose up to 2 'Reading for Pleasure' books which they can enjoy sharing with their family, reading together or being read to. Children who have finished their Monster Phonics journey will have a whole class guided reading session three times per week. 'Free readers' will also take home library books to read at home every Wednesday. These can be returned and changed (if finished) on a Friday.

Art /Design Technology



Our focus for Autumn 1 will be Art: 'Prehistoric Painting', which fits in perfectly with our history topic. This unit explores prehistoric art, recreating the style of cave artists using charcoal and natural pigments. Pupils experiment with colour mixing, and creating large-scale artworks, enhancing both artistic skills and historical knowledge.

In Autumn 2 our focus will be DT, where we will be sewing our very own Christmas themed cushions! We will learn how to use cross-stitch and appliqué when designing and making a cushion. Nearer the time, any extra adult help would be very much appreciated!! Children will develop their skills in using cross-stitch and applique, designing and cutting a template and following a design criteria.



Music

In Music in Autumn 1, we will use our school scheme of Charanga, exploring the song, 'Three Little Birds'. We will identify the hook of a song and compare similar/different songs. Key vocabulary includes: texture, tempo, pitch and dynamics.

For Autumn 2, we are lucky enough to have Miss Reynolds teach Year 3 how to play the recorder.

Key skills learned will include finding the pulse, learning key notes and playing with accuracy.

MFL



This year, we are introducing Spanish to year 3. We will be learning Spanish all year and will follow the Primary Languages Network scheme of work. We will be developing basic written and spoken Spanish covering many topics. Greetings and salutations is our first topic. We will sing songs, watch videos, and learn to write in Spanish. Key themes we will explore Include: Numbers up to 31; days and months; greetings; family; foods; and the weather.