



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

Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

- This newsletter will give you an overview of the learning for your child 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.

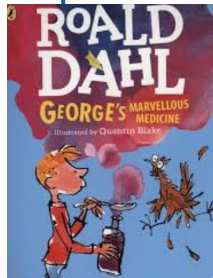
Miss Walsh

Summer Term 2026

English

Our English work this first half term links with our history topic, and will be centred around Ancient Greece. We will be focusing on our non-fiction writing, working towards writing a non-chronological report followed by a persuasive advert: Visit Ancient Greece! Alternatively, the children can write to persuade someone to eat healthily, linking with our science.

In Summer 2, our first text will focus around the fantastic novel, George's Marvellous Medicine. We will be writing a diary entry as George. To end the year, we will link our writing to topic and science, writing an explanation text, linked to bees and plants. We will be following the Grammarsaurus approach to teaching English.



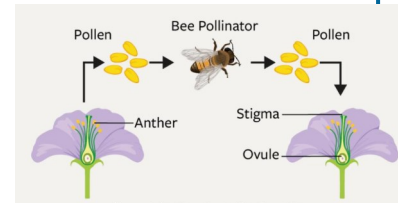
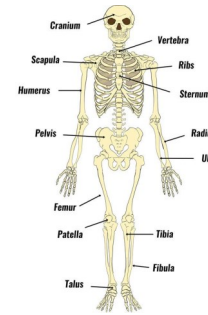
Mathematics

We continue to follow the White Rose Maths scheme. The units in Summer term are as follows:

- Fractions
- Money
- Time
- Shape
- Statistics



We will continue to recap previous learning, including lots of emphasis on arithmetic. Please refer to the more detailed overview for Mathematics for this term.



Science

Our Science focus this first half term is Animals including humans. The children build on their Key Stage 1 learning by exploring how animals, including humans, need the right nutrition to stay healthy, and by learning about the role of skeletons and muscles in movement. This prepares them for later work in Key Stage 2 on body systems such as digestion and circulation.

In Summer 2, our Science focus will be Plants. In Year 3, children build on their Key Stage 1 learning about plants by exploring how they grow and survive, including the functions of roots, stems, leaves and flowers, and the role of water transport. This prepares them for later work in Key Stage 2 on processes such as pollination, seed dispersal and plant reproduction.

Computing

Our first computing topic this term is 'iData'. Children will learn how information in a database is organized and interrogated, following a theme of an imaginary travel website. They will use a prepared database to find information about holidays and add records using information found online.

In Summer 2, our unit is iPodcast. In this computing unit, children learn how technology can be used to create and control sound, including how audio is stored digitally. They explore what podcasts are and develop skills in planning, recording and editing their own podcast using digital tools. Along the way, they learn to combine sounds and effects, evaluate what makes a good podcast, and suggest ways to improve their work.

History / Geography



We will begin with a history topic, all about Ancient Greece. This unit looks at the Ancient Greeks and their achievements from around 3000 BCE to the reign of Alexander the Great around 330 BCE. The children will think about and discuss how we know about the early Greeks, by looking at excavation evidence and what this tells them. They will learn about life in Athens and Sparta, the Persian invasion and the impact this had on life in the city-states. The final few lessons look at the leadership of Ancient Greece under the rule of King Philip II and then Alexander the Great. Children will conclude their learning with a final response to the main historical enquiry, 'What were the greatest achievements of Ancient Greece?'

We will conclude the year with an exciting Geography topic, Conservation of Bees, which will include fieldwork. In this unit, children will learn how important bees are for humans and the natural world. Children will learn the dangers facing bees and how they can be conserved. Children will observe bees in their natural habitat and carry out improvement works on school grounds to help conserve and protect bees.



MFL

Year 3 will continue to learn new Spanish vocabulary in the Summer term, including fruit and vegetable nouns. By the end of the Summer 1 unit, Year 3 will be able to politely ask for a fruit or vegetable and write sentences using a model.

Through Summer 2, Year 3 will develop their vocabulary further by naming and labelling food items to take on a picnic. They will then understand familiar vocabulary and use the phrase, 'I live...' and ask the question, 'Where do you live?'



PSHE

Our key questions in our PSHE topics for Summer term are: What hygiene and good habits keep us healthy? What makes a community? Through developing physical and psychosocial wellbeing, pupils believe in themselves and are able to succeed academically, socially and contribute positively to society.



Religious Education



This term in RE we will be looking at what it means to be a Sikh in Britain today. We will look at the core beliefs of Sikhism. We will make links between the life of the Gurus and actions that Sikhs take today.

Physical Education



In PE, children develop their skills through dance and cricket in Summer 1, and dodgeball and athletics in Summer 2. They build on National Curriculum objectives by improving coordination, control and teamwork, learning to apply simple tactics in games, and performing movements with increasing accuracy. Pupils also develop their ability to evaluate their own and others' performance and strive to improve.

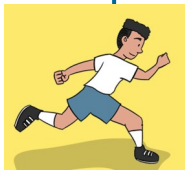
Indoor PE Kit: Children should wear navy blue or black shorts (of an appropriate length) and a pale blue T-shirt, available from the school, and plimsolls.

Outdoor PE: Children should wear navy blue or black shorts (of an appropriate length), leggings or tracksuit bottoms, a pale blue T-shirt and trainers.

School hoodies are also available to wear on PE days and are available to buy on School Spider. Please refrain from heavily branded sportswear for PE kit.

Earrings, must be removed by the child before PE lessons. (For Health and Safety reasons adults are not permitted to remove earrings from children.)

All uniform items MUST be clearly labelled to ensure lost items can be returned to their owners.



Art/Design Technology



Summer 1 will see Year 3 begin a new unit called, 'Structures - Product Packaging'. In this DT unit, children explore different types of product packaging, learning how shape and design link to purpose. They investigate existing packaging, then design and create their own using nets of 3D shapes. Pupils develop practical skills such as cutting, folding and strengthening structures, as well as evaluating and improving their designs to make effective and appealing packaging.

Our Summer 2 topic is: 'Developing Drawing Skills'. In this art unit, children develop their drawing skills by observing shapes, patterns and textures closely, and using these to create more detailed sketches. They practise shading and mark-making techniques to show light, dark and texture, and learn how to build drawings using simple shapes. Pupils also explore creating artwork digitally, before applying their skills to design a piece inspired by the Sun.

Music



In Summer 1, Year 3 will have their second half term learning to play the recorder with Miss Reynolds, developing their ability to play notes accurately, control pitch and rhythm, and perform simple pieces. This supports National Curriculum objectives by building skills in performing, listening and appraising music, as well as reading basic musical notation.

In Summer 2, our music unit is 'Storytelling: A Spooky Story'. In this unit, the children will create their own Spooky Story composition, featuring a drum beat, melody and bassline. They will also learn how to underscore their work.



Reading



In Year 3, we are passionate about developing a love of reading. We follow a scheme called Plazoom for our whole class guided reading sessions, which take place three times a week for 30 minutes. Plazoom provides high-quality texts and comprehension activities designed to build vocabulary, fluency, and a deeper understanding of texts.

Children have regular opportunities to read aloud in class, enjoy silent independent reading, and take part in social reading—where they share books and reading experiences with their peers. Reading books are changed every Friday.

We enjoy reading our class novel together each day and strongly encourage children to read at home daily too. Whether it's being read to, reading aloud, or sharing a favourite story, these moments help build confidence and nurture a lifelong love of books. For ideas and inspiration, you can explore these recommended reads for Year 3 children:

www.booksfortopics.com/year-3

www.thereaderteacher.com/year3

Homework

Our Maths, English and Talking Homework will be set each Wednesday. The return date will be the following Monday.

This will be typically be set using Class Dojo and My Maths.

Log-ins for this will be the same as before, but if you have misplaced these or they seem to have expired, please send us a message and we will send them home again. Spellings will be tested at the end of each 3 week block on a Friday.



A Note About Items from Home



We kindly ask that children do not bring toys, notebooks, key rings, fidget toys, or other non-essential items into school, as these can become distractions during learning time. If we feel a child would genuinely benefit from a concentration tool or sensory item to support their focus, we will provide a suitable one from school. Thank you for your support in helping us create a calm and focused learning environment.

