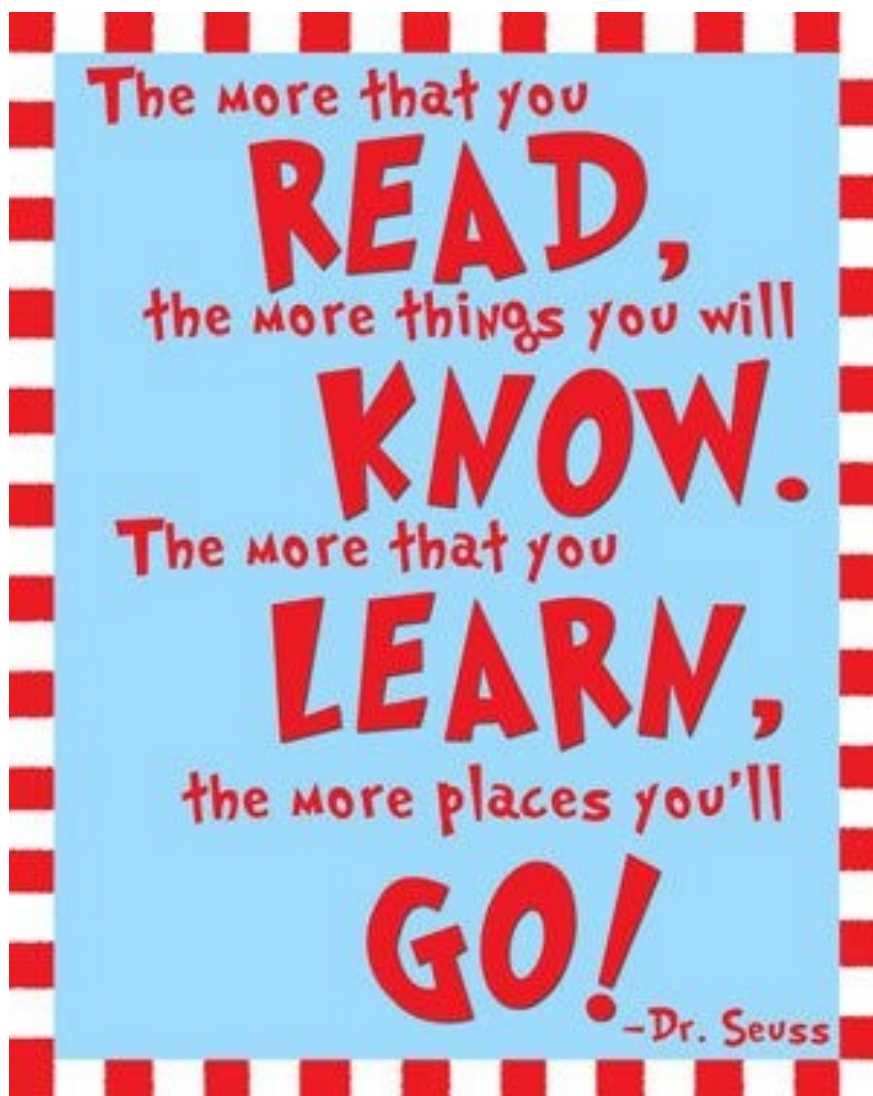




Barkisland CE (VA) Primary School  
WE BELIEVE, WE NURTURE, WE SUCCEED!

## 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 us.

Thank you - Mrs Nicoll & Mrs Watkins

Autumn Term 2026

## English

This term, our English work will be linked to our topic: Stone Age, 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 and recounts.

In Autumn 2, we will be learning to characterise speech. In the latter half of the term, we will be looking at poems, in particular, limericks and clerihews. We will also learn to perform a poem by heart - Hot Food by Michael Rosen.

Our Spelling rules for the term can be found on the Talking Homework on Class Dojo.



## 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.



## 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.

The purpose of Talking Homework is to enable you to engage in conversations about various areas of your child's learning.

Other ways you may want to support your child in their learning:

- Reading and talking about books together 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).



## Additional Information

Mrs Watkins will be teaching the class Monday and Tuesday and Mrs Nicoll will be teaching Wednesday to Friday.

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

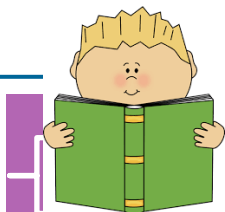


## PSHE



Our theme for Autumn 1 in PSHE is Mental Health and Wellbeing. In Autumn 1, we will be learning about thoughts, feelings and emotions. We will explore how emotions can vary in strength and learn to recognise and manage feelings such as worry. The children will consider different types of distractions and ways to manage them, as well as explore helpful patterns of thoughts and emotions. They will also learn how feeling calm can help them to manage their responses and make positive choices.

In Autumn 2, our focus is relationships in our unit: 'Me, my friends and belonging'. We will also have our annual Inclusivity Week.



## Reading

In Year 3, reading is huge focus. We have a fabulous library of books in the classroom to choose from including fiction and non-fiction, with books linked to our topics available.

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 every Friday to those children after their Guided Reading session and should be read with your child every day. These books need to be returned by Tuesday ready for their next Guided Reading session.

Children who have finished their Monster Phonics journey will have a whole class Guided Reading session three times per week. These '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.

Children can also choose a 'Reading for Pleasure' book which they can enjoy sharing with their family, reading together or being read to.



## Science



This half term, we 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.

In Autumn 2, we will be learning about light and shadows. They will explore how we need light to see and understand that darkness is the absence of light. They will investigate how light is reflected from different surfaces and learn about the importance of protecting their eyes from the sun's harmful rays. The children will also discover how shadows are formed when light is blocked by an opaque object and investigate how and why shadows change in size and shape.



## Religious



This term in RE, we will be exploring, 'What are the deeper meanings of festivals? This learning will cover a range of different religions. We will be identifying the main beliefs at the heart of religious festivals. We will be making connections between stories, symbols and beliefs.

In Autumn 2, we will be considering the question, 'What kind of world did Jesus want? This is part of the Gospel, which tells the life and teaching of Jesus.



## 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.

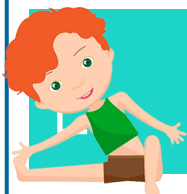


## History / Geography

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 Tuesdays (indoor) and Fridays (outdoor).

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.

## Art /Design Technology



Our focus for Autumn 1 will be Art. We will be exploring '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. We will be sewing our very own cushions! We will learn how to use cross-stitch and applique when designing and making a cushion. 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 start by 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. In the latter half of the half term, Miss Reynolds will be teaching basic recorder skills.

In Autumn 2, we will be learning to sing 'Make You Feel My Love' and play part of the song on glockenspiels.



## 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.

In Autumn 2, our key learning we will include: numbers up to 31 and days and months.