

Keston Primary School and Nursery

Curriculum Information



Spring Term – Year 3

General Information

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely Christmas break. The Spring Term is going to be very exciting, as we are learning about the Romans in our topic, “Veni, Vidi, Vici” (I came, I saw, I conquered). The children are very excited about the topic, and we are too!

English

For the first half term we are reading *Oliver and the Seawigs* by Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre. This book will be the basis for most of our writing and even some artwork! We will be studying Roman myths and legends, as well as newspaper reports in the second half term. Children have a weekly grammar or punctuation lesson and we are working on our reading comprehension skills. Fortnightly comprehension homework is sent home in order to help develop these skills. Children are tested on their weekly spelling pattern every Tuesday so please practise these spellings at home using the ‘look, cover, write, check’ sheets as well as completing the homework activity in the spelling book.

Mathematics

We will continue to work on the column method of addition and subtraction, as well as developing written methods for multiplication (the grid method). As always, you can check our calculation policy online for explanations of each method. We will also be working on Roman numerals, fractions, measurement of time, angles and our investigative skills. We are continuing to work on our times tables and would appreciate your support in encouraging your child to practise at home, as well as completing the bi-weekly maths homework. There will also be an emphasis on times tables this term. Due to the new Year 4 national times table assessment which begins next year, the children will be assessed weekly on a particular times table. By the end of year 3, children are expected to know their 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables so it would be fantastic if you could practice these at home.

Explore and Discover

Explore and Discover encompasses all of our science, history, geography, art and D.T. lessons which we learn through our main topics. We are learning about the Romans. For the first half term we will mainly focus on aspects of Roman life in Britain and in the second half term, we will be learning about volcanoes and earthquakes both today and in Roman times. Before half term we will be having a Roman themed day including food, activities and costumes so get your togas ready! More details to follow later on this half term.

Computing

We are learning about how to communicate safely using email. In the second half term we will be learning how to record and edit our own videos.

RE

This half term we will be focusing on Sikhism and Christianity including Easter in the second half term.

PE

The children will be learning to line dance this term – yee-haw! PE kits will need to be in school every Wednesday. Our swimming lessons will continue to be on Friday afternoon.

Music

We will continue to learn to play the recorder during our music lessons.

How to help your child

- Encourage your children to read as much as possible and ask them questions to check they understand what they are reading.
- Practise times tables with your child. By the end of year 3 they are expected to know the 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables.
- Support your child with their homework. If they find their homework difficult, please make a note on the homework to let us know, we are always happy to go over this in school.
- The BBC have some great resources about the Romans here <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zwmpfg8>
- Horrible histories have some catchy Roman-themed songs that you can find on Youtube.
- www.purplemash.com can be used for a variety of topics, including languages, maths and English. Your child can use their school login to access these resources. Please ask a teacher if they do not remember their logins.
- www.topmarks.co.uk has lots of fun maths games. We especially recommend Hit the Button to practice times tables.

Homework

Children will receive maths or English homework every Thursday to be handed in by the following Tuesday. Children will have a spelling pattern to focus on each week in school and as part of their homework. Your child will bring home their spelling book each Thursday and should complete the task they will have started in school by the following Tuesday. It is very helpful if you can work with them on that spelling pattern at home, for example put words containing the spelling pattern into written sentences, as children will be tested on words containing their spelling pattern on Tuesdays.

Children will bring their school reading book home every day. They are expected to read their school reading scheme book aloud to an adult at least three times a week. Each week, we will celebrate the Star Readers (those children who have read their school reading book at least 3 times in a week). This term there will also be a homework club on Friday lunchtimes for children in years 3 and 4. If there are any issues with completing homework, your child is more than welcome to come to this.

Uniform and PE kit

Please ensure all of your child's uniform is clearly named. Earrings should be removed for PE and swimming unless a note of permission is given to your child's class teacher. We would also like to remind you that hairbands should be plain.

Parent Helpers

We welcome help from parents to help with swimming lessons, hearing children read or with general classroom jobs. Let your class teacher know if you are available. Please be aware you will need a DBS to help in school. Please see the office if you require one.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if there is a problem.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Rosewell and Miss Nixon