

Reading

This term we are reading *Harley Hitch and the Iron Forest* by Vashti Hardy and *Yuval Zommer's Big Book of Blooms*. We encourage all children to read for a short time every day at home. We welcome the positive comments you make in the reading record and appreciate the time you take to listen to your child. We will continue to guide your child to make sure they are reading a range of poetry, fiction, non-fiction and media.

The children participate in three guided reading sessions a week as well as three independent reading sessions. As a result, we are not writing in your child's reading record as frequently as we were. However, we are still listening to them read aloud other texts in class. We are using the acronym **VIPERS** to help develop your child's comprehension skills by exploring a range of questions about what they read.

VIPERS stands for the following:

Vocabulary

Inference

Prediction

Explanation

Retrieval

Sequence or Summarise

Spellings

Children will be given their spellings and their maths homework every Monday, which should be returned every Friday. Spellings will be tested on Friday morning.

Times Tables

Your child will also bring home a piece of maths work each Monday which will be linked directly to helping them develop greater fluency with their times tables. Your child will also take part in a weekly tables challenge on a Friday which is called 'Tables through time.' They will work their way through the historical timeline as they progress with their tables.

Please encourage your child to practise their tables at home. We always have **spare sheets** for each stage of the tables challenge. Each week your child will bring home their completed tables challenge sheet. Times Tables Rockstars is also a brilliant way for your child to improve their tables.

Termly Life Skill Plant Challenge

Can you use a wildflower book or the Seek App by Seek by iNaturalist to identify the flowers and plants in your area or on any walks that you go on? The children have started to use this App already in school. Perhaps, you could have a go at growing your own wildflowers too. Please do keep letting Class 3 know about the seeds that you took home last term and how your plants are doing. We would love to see any photos. You can email these to hello@stminver.org.

As always we have high expectations of the children and aim for all pupils to uphold our school motto, 'Be Brave, Be Kind, Belong'.

We hope you will find this information useful. If you have any further questions or queries please contact the office on 01208 862496 or hello@stminver.org to arrange a meeting with Miss Merson or Mrs Couch. Please don't forget to take a look at our class page on the school's website.

With very best wishes,

Miss Merson and Mrs Couch



Year 3 Class Booklet— Summer Term 1

Teachers: Miss Merson and
Mrs Couch

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Broad
and Miss Bradley



Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back. Hopefully you enjoyed the wonderful weather during the Easter holidays. The children performed with great confidence during our Spring Concert last term and this term we are very excited to be learning a song cycle called Meadowsong and, as a class, to undertake the RSPB's Wild Challenge, which directly links with our Plants topic. We are hoping that at some point in Summer 2 we will be able to perform Meadowsong to you and share the work we are about to complete, linked to this term's question 'Why are plants powerful?'

The following information will give you an insight into the teaching and learning that will take place in Year 3 during this term, although it is likely that some things will change as we go along. Miss Merson will continue to teach the children on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs Couch will teach the children on a Thursday and Friday. Mrs Broad or Mrs Bradley will support the children each morning.

English

We will start this term with performance poetry. The children will learn how to perform with expression and intonation when reciting poems linked to our Meadowsong Song Cycle. The children will also be creating and performing their own poems linked to wild flower meadows. We will then be exploring the features of a Non Chronological Report and write a report about Wildflower meadows and why they are so important. We will also be reading the story 'Jim and the Beanstalk' and continue to develop our understanding of how to use speech to advance the action in a story and develop characterisation. In the final week of term, our writing will be linked to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We will be studying the Queen's speeches and create one as if we are the Queen addressing the nation about the Platinum Jubilee. We will also create our own versions of the story of 'The Queen's Handbag.'

Maths

The children will continue to consolidate their 2, 3, 4 and 8 times tables in class. They will continue to develop their understanding of fractions. They will be exploring how to find fractions of an amount, equivalent fractions, and learn how to compare fractions. The children will also be adding and subtracting fractions as well. Every morning, the children start the day with morning maths questions which help them to re-visit their prior learning. The children will also take part in two weekly mental maths sessions which are taken from the 'Number Sense' maths scheme. In these sessions we will be looking at how to know which strategy to select and how to calculate with multiples of tens and multiples of ones.

PE

The children will have PE on Thursday and Friday morning with Mr Rickard. Please remember to make sure you child has their PE kit in school on these days. They will be developing their tennis skills and their striking and fielding skills in cricket.

Music

The children will be looking at how to sing expressively with control, awareness of dynamics and rhythmical accuracy when they learn the four songs in the Meadowsong song cycle, written by Kate Stilitz. We will consider the role of music and song as a tool for story telling and communicating an important message. The children will experiment with how to use movements to reflect the meaning of song lyrics, to enhance a performance of a song. The children will also compose a piece of music, made up of layered vocalised and percussion sounds in response to the sounds of meadow wildlife. Our BBC 10 Pieces musical piece will be Mozart's 'Horn Concerto No 4 (3rd Movement).'

Science

This half term we will be learning about plants and answering the question, 'How do plants survive?' We will identify the different functions of the different parts of flowering plants (roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers). We will investigate the way in which water is transported within plants. The children will develop their understanding of comparative and fair testing by setting up an investigation to explore the requirements of plants for life and growth. The children will also learn about the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal. We will look at how to develop our research skills by using secondary sources, as well as continuing to enhance our recording, observation and classification skills.

RE

In RE we will begin our unit on Christianity. We will be considering the question, 'What kind of world did Jesus want?' We will begin with an introduction to the topic and explore Jesus' Disciples and the story of Matthew's Gospel. We will look at how and why Christians live their lives by the teaching of the Gospels and how Christians try to build a world that Jesus would have wanted. We will then explore stories from the bible about how Jesus wanted the world to be. We will also be looking at different Christian leaders who have given their lives to do good and make the world how Jesus wanted.

ART

Our art is linked to our Meadowsong work and we will explore the variation of lines through mark making and how to use water colours. We will also develop our skills of observational drawing by looking at different plants, experimenting with colour and how to add detail.

Computing

We will be continuing to learn about online safety and how to keep ourselves safe online. Our topic this term is Connecting Computers. We will look at how a digital device works, what parts make up a digital device and how digital devices can help us. We will also explore how we are connected, how computers are connected and what our school network looks like.

PSHE (Personal Social and Health Education)

In Jigsaw, the children will be exploring the topic 'Relationships.' We will be learning about families and the roles and responsibilities within a family. The children will look at friendship and what makes a friendship work, for example taking it in turns and being a good listener. They will discuss and explore keeping themselves safe and to know when to ask for help if they are worried or concerned.. We will look at what strategies we can use to keep ourselves safe and name who we can go to if we feel unsafe. We will reflect on how the work of others around the world can influence our lives and identify how their lives are different to other children's around the world. We will explore what it means to be a global citizen and also how it feels to be part of a family and a friendship group.

Geography

In geography, we will answer the question, 'Why do we find different plants in different parts of the world?' We will identify the position and significance of the Equator, the Northern, the Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn. We will explore what biomes and climate zones are and identify the major biomes and climate zones around the world. We will explore desert biomes and identify both hot and cold deserts as being the most extreme climates in the world. The children will investigate mega-diverse countries and the different countries and climate zones where particular foods grow.