

Executive Headteacher: Ms Sarah Jane Bellerby

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to another exciting school year!

We are delighted to have your children back with us and are looking forward to a term filled with learning, fun and new opportunities. The start of a school year always brings a sense of excitement, and we are eager to see the children grow in confidence and skills as the term progresses. Thank you, as always, for your continued support – we are looking forward to a fantastic year ahead together.

English



We are starting the year by focusing on sentence composition and exploring a range of sentence structures. Building on the strong foundations laid in Key Stage 1, the children will continue to develop their ability to write clear and complete sentences. They will revisit and reinforce their understanding of punctuation, while also learning to experiment with a variety of sentence types, including statements, questions, and exclamations. These activities will support them in becoming more confident writers and help them produce writing that is both interesting and varied.

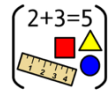
We will begin by writing a **first-person narrative description**. The children will learn a range of descriptive devices and how to write from a first-person perspective. They will use coordinating conjunctions (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so) to build complex sentences and learn to describe settings in detail, selecting precise vocabulary to create atmosphere. Through oral rehearsal and discussion, pupils will select adjectives and adverbs to expand noun phrases and add precise detail. They will also learn how these descriptive choices can be used to convey the exact atmosphere they want in their writing.

The children will then write **poems about emotions**. They will explore how poets use features such as alliteration, assonance and rhyme to create effect, and then experiment with these in their own writing. We will also immerse ourselves in descriptive writing, where they will build rich setting descriptions using expanded noun phrases, precise adjectives, adverbs and conjunctions to make their sentences more varied and engaging. To celebrate their learning, the children will take part in a poetry performance and will develop their confidence to read aloud.

Reading

In reading, we will be studying *Greta and the Giants* by Zoë Tucker and *Pebble in My Pocket* by Meredith Hooper. These texts will help the children practise retrieving key information, summarising what they have read, and forming their own opinions supported by evidence. Both books raise big themes and ideas, offering plenty of opportunities for thoughtful discussion.

Maths



Our first Maths unit is **place value**, working with numbers up to 1,000. Children will practise counting in multiples of 4, 8, 50 and 100, as well as finding 10 or 100 more or less than a given number. They will explore how each digit in a 3-digit number represents hundreds, tens and ones, and use this to compare, order and estimate numbers. They will also practise reading and writing numbers to 1,000 in both numerals and words. These skills will be applied in problem-solving activities to help the children connect their learning with real-life contexts.

Science



Our science topic this half term is **Rocks and Soils**. Children will compare and group different kinds of rocks by looking at their appearance and simple physical properties. They will find out how fossils are formed when living things become trapped in rock and will explore how soils are made from rocks and organic matter. Throughout the topic, they will be encouraged to observe closely, ask questions and record their findings like real scientists.

Geography



In Geography this term, the children will be developing their **fieldwork and map skills**. They will learn how to use maps, atlases and compasses to locate places and to build their understanding of both the local area and the wider world. Alongside this, they will explore aspects of physical geography, such as rivers, mountains and climate, and human geography, including settlements and land use. These lessons will help the children to see how people and places are connected, and how geography shapes the way we live.

History



In History, the children will be learning about life in the **Stone Age through to the Iron Age**. They will explore how early people survived, which materials were essential for daily life, and how tools and farming techniques developed over time. They will also discover how archaeologists' findings have changed what we know about the past. By creating simple timelines and using different sources, the children will begin to develop their historical enquiry skills and a deeper understanding of how people lived long ago.



PSHE

Our PSHE theme this half term is **Being Me in My World**. The children will reflect on their own strengths and achievements and set personal goals for the year ahead. They will learn how to value themselves and others, face challenges positively and make responsible choices. We will also focus on recognising emotions in ourselves and others, and on building a classroom community where everyone feels safe, respected and included.



Art and Design

This half term in art, the children will be inspired by the work of **Vincent Van Gogh** as they continue to experiment with drawing and painting. They will explore how to use different materials, including paint, to make a variety of marks and effects. The children will practise mixing colours and will be introduced to various painting techniques. They will also learn how to combine these techniques to create texture and shape in their artwork. Linking with our science topic on rocks and fossils, pupils will look closely at nature to identify interesting lines and patterns and use these observations to influence their own creative work.



Computing

This half term, pupils will be exploring the world of **digital media** through a module focused on podcasting, blogging, vlogging, and broadcast channels. They will begin by learning about the origins and development of these forms of communication before moving on to create their own content. As part of this, pupils will develop a deeper understanding of how digital networks, such as the internet, enable easy and effective remote collaboration. They will also enhance their technical skills by using more advanced functions of GarageBand, including the auto-bar and copy-and-paste features. In addition to the practical elements, pupils will use their writing skills to plan and structure their work, considering how to tailor content to suit their intended audience.



PE

This half term, pupils will be taking part in a **multi sports module** every Thursday **designed to develop their skills across a variety of sporting disciplines, including** athletics, net games, invasion games, and striking and fielding games. The focus will be on building core techniques such as running, hurdling, throwing, jumping, dribbling, passing, ball control, striking, and shooting. Pupils will also work on attack and defence strategies, with an emphasis on teamwork and tactical thinking. Throughout the unit, they will learn the correct techniques for events such as the javelin and triple jump, as well as football skills including dribbling, passing, tackling and shooting. Basketball and cricket skills such as passing,

receiving, fielding and batting will also be covered. By the end of the unit, pupils will be able to demonstrate competence in a wide range of physical skills and show an understanding of how these can be transferred across different sports. They will also develop their ability to work effectively as part of a team.

In addition, we are delighted to introduce our Tuesday Dance Programme, where students will explore the elegance of Rumba and the passion of Paso Doble. These classes are designed to help children build confidence, rhythm, and coordination while experiencing the joy of Latin and Ballroom dance.

French



We are delighted to introduce French as our Modern Foreign Language (MFL) this year and to welcome Tom, our French teacher, who is based at Mulberry London Dock. This half term, the children will be focusing on greetings, instructions, numbers, months, birthdays, and basic conversation. Lessons will be taught through a multisensory approach, combining words with actions, songs, games, and some worksheet activities to ensure that children also begin to develop reading and writing skills in French.

Music



This half term, pupils will be introduced to the fundamentals of music theory through practical work on electronic keyboards. They will begin to explore key musical concepts such as composition and improvisation, while learning to read and play music using Western standard notation. Pupils will focus on building their understanding of scales, rhythm, stepwise motion, expression, and melodic structure. As part of their learning, they will study and perform a variety of songs, helping to reinforce both their practical skills and their knowledge of musical notation and history. By the end of the unit, pupils will be able to identify the notes C, D and E on the treble clef staff and understand how scales are constructed. They will also gain confidence in creating and performing their own rhythmic and melodic ideas, while beginning to explore how music can express emotion through different features.

Reading



We believe fostering a love for reading in our pupils will open the door to endless opportunities throughout their lives. If you have any questions about your child's reading habits or progress, please do come and speak with us. Pupils are offered a wide range of texts, and we understand that it can sometimes feel a little confusing.

One of the most important things you can do with your child is to read, read, read! This week the children have really enjoyed exploring different stories and discussing their favourite parts. Please try to take at least 20 - 30 minutes each evening to read together. Please ensure that this time includes an opportunity for your child to read independently, as well as time for your child to enjoy listening to you read. The children will continue to borrow a book from the class library each week to enjoy at home.

Our school starts to use Accelerated Reader (AR) this term to help support your child's reading journey. AR allows students to choose books that match their reading level, take quizzes to check understanding, and track their progress in a fun and motivating way. Children will be reassessed this half term and children will be given book suited to their reading level which they will take home to read and will complete a quiz. To help you understand how AR works and how you can support your child at home, we will be holding a parent workshop on 23rd September 2025 9.00-9.30.

Times Table:

This year, we are focusing on strengthening children's quick recall of the 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, and 10 times tables. Regular practice—just 5 to 10 minutes a day—can make a big difference in developing fluency and confidence. Learning times tables supports key mathematical skills, including division, fractions, and problem-solving. We encourage families to explore times tables through real-life contexts, such as sharing objects, calculating totals while shopping, or measuring ingredients when cooking. A little daily effort goes a long way!

To support this at home, here are some useful online resources:

- Daily 10 – Topmarks: Quick-fire mental maths including times tables
- Super Maths Bowling – ICT Games: Knock down pins and answer multiplication questions!
- Times Tables Rock Stars: Game-based platform for speedy recall
- Hit the Button – Topmarks: Quick recall of multiplication and division facts
- BBC Super Movers – Times Tables: Songs and dances to help learn times tables

Uniform



Please make sure all jumpers/ cardigans are labelled.

Our uniform consists of the following:

- A purple sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
- Purple or white polo shirt with school logo
- Black trousers, black skirt or black pinafore
- Lilac/purple school gingham dress (summer)
- Black shoes
- If a headscarf is worn this should be black, white or purple

PE Kit

Please can all PE clothing items be labelled with your child's name.

Our PE kit consists of the following:

- A white polo shirt with school logo
- Black jogging bottoms or black shorts

- Black plimsolls or suitable trainers

Water

Please make sure your child brings a water bottle to school.

Bookbag

Please check regularly and take out letters and communication



Dates to remember

PE	Every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon
Give me 10	Thursday 8.50-9.00
Home Learning	Goes out on Friday
	Due Wednesday
Spelling	Every Wednesday
Class Library	Every Wednesday
Celebration Assembly	Friday 9.05-9.30

Home Reading Workshop- Tuesday 23rd September 2025 9.00-9.30

Trip to the Soane Centre: Wednesday 8th October 2025 (permission slip to follow)

Homework:

Year 3 home learning involves weekly spelling, daily reading and an English or maths activity which will be handed in every Friday.

Thank you for reading our Year 3 curriculum share. We hope it has given you a helpful insight into your child's learning and the routines we are building together. The children are already showing great enthusiasm, and we are excited to see their confidence and progress continue to grow this term. Your support at home plays such an important role, and we truly appreciate it.

Yours sincerely,

Year 3 Team

Science

Vocabulary for explicit instruction



Tier 2 multiple meaning or high frequency		Tier 3 subject specific	
cemented	glued together or strengthened	fossil	remains of life that have hardened in rock
compacted	pressed firmly together	igneous	when molten rock has solidified
decay	to rot or break down	magma	hot, fluid material beneath the earth's crust
prehistoric	relating to the time before written records	metamorphic	having been changed by heat or pressure
soil	upper layer of the ground	minerals	naturally occurring inorganic matter
transform	change the form of something	sedimentary	formed from matter that has settled in water

Geography

Tier 2 multiple meaning or high frequency		Tier 3 subject specific	
bisect	to divide something into two equal parts	cardinal point	each of the four main points of the compass (north, south, east and west)
precise	clear and accurate	bearing	a direction measured from a fixed point using a compass
accurate	correct and true in every detail	settlement	the place people live, for example a village, town or city
approximately	used to show that something is almost, but not completely, accurate or correct	recreation	enjoyable leisure activity
relation	the way in which two or more things are connected	harbour	an area on the coast where ships can shelter from the sea
align	to arrange something in the correct position in relation to something else, especially in a straight line	deciduous	of a tree or bush that loses its leaves every year

History

≡ Tier 2 multiple meaning or high frequency		≡ Tier 3 subject specific	
ancient	relating to a very long time ago	domesticated	adapted from wild to tame
community	a group of people living together in the same area (a social unit)	arid	little or no rain, barren
dense	covered thickly	gatherer	a person who forages for food
extinct	no longer in existence	nomad	a person who travels from place to place and has no permanent home
roaming	moving about without a set destination	reared	to breed and raise an animal
prehistory	a period of time before any written records	submerged	completely covered in water

Art and Design

Core Knowledge	Explanation
hue	Hue refers to a particular shade of a colour, e.g. his face took on a subtle greenish hue.
repetition	Repetition of marks and brushstrokes can create different visual effects such as the illusion of texture on a flat surface.
resist	A method of applying paint over another medium such as wax crayon is called resist. Paint will not stick to the wax crayon and this allows previous marks made to remain visible through the paint.

Technical Vocabulary	Definition
tonking	a method of taking paint off (or blotting) a surface to reveal other marks
sgraffito	a method involving scratching through the surface layer of paint to reveal the layer beneath
impasto	a painting technique in which the paint is applied so thickly that it stands out from the surface, creating texture