

**Year 3
Borrowers
Spring 1
2023**

Walkley Primary School Curriculum Newsletter

'Enjoyment, Achievement and Learning for life...'



Key Information and Dates

Our PE days are Tuesdays and Fridays. Please remember to wear your PE kit and suitable footwear to school on these days.

Forest school week for Year 3:
Week beginning 06.02.23

Our Golden Award assemblies continue at 2:30pm on Fridays - please come along to celebrate!



English

In English this half term, we will cover a range of different genres in our writing linked to our new class text, *The Explorer*, by Katherine Rundell. First, we will explore the dramatic opening of the narrative. After acting out the events, we will take on the role of one of the children in the plane in order to re-write the opening from a different perspective. We will then move on to learn about descriptive writing and will be creating setting descriptions for the tropical rainforest. Finally, we will research one of the rainforest's cutest inhabitants, the sloth, in order to write our own fact files. As well as reading the Explorer, we will also explore a range of non-fiction texts linked to our Geography and Art topics.

Science

In Science this half term, we will be continuing to explore 'Light'. The children will undertake investigations so they can begin to;

- Recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light.
- Notice that light is reflected from surfaces.
- Recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous
- Recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an object
- Find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change.

We will then move onto our next topic all about plants!

Maths

In Maths this half term we will be continuing to focus on the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will be practising:

- adding 3-digit numbers using column addition
- subtracting from a 3-digit number using a numberline to find the difference
- using estimation to check our answers
- using arrays to multiply
- multiplying by 3, 4 and 8
- making equal groups by sharing
- making equal groups by grouping

Geography

In Geography, we will be starting our exciting new topic '*Exploring the Rainforest*'. We will be learning where the rainforests are located and the importance of the equator and the tropics and what the climate is like. We will also learn about the different layers of the rainforest, including the animals and plants that live in each, and how we can protect them.

Art

In Art this term, we will be focusing on our painting skills. We will begin by exploring the work of Mexican artist, Frida Kahlo. We will then develop our painting skills by looking at colour and tone, creating a backwash and adding detail using different types of brush. We will apply our skills to create our final, Frida-inspired, tropical paintings.

Computing

In Computing this half term, we will learn how to use digital media as musicians. We will begin by exploring how music makes us feel. Following this, we will learn how we can create musical loops and how we can adapt the speed and sound of a piece of music. We will use these skills to compose our own piece.

Citizenship

In Citizenship, we will be continuing to focus on discussion around friendships and how friendships can change over time. We will also be learning about friendships online and learning about Online Safety.

Religious Education

In RE this half term, we will be exploring how Christian beliefs about God, the world and others have an impact on their lives.

Spanish

In Spanish this half term, we will be learning new vocabulary for the months of the year and continuing to count so that we can develop our conversational skills to talk about birthdays.

Music

In music this half term, we will be continuing our violin-playing journey, honing existing skills and learning new ones.

Home Learning

Home learning will be set on a Friday to be completed by the following Wednesday.

Children will be given a sequence of 6 activities to complete one each week to consolidate and extend the learning within the geography and history unit. Children will have weekly spellings set to learn on Spelling Shed which follow the spelling pattern that will have been taught in school. These will be tested in school on Friday.

Children will also be set as a Google Quiz as their maths homework – children can access this using their Google Classroom account.

We also ask that children read regularly at home – please complete the home school reading record when your child reads at home.



PE

This half term, we will be learning how to play golf. We will explore different hitting techniques, improving our shot accuracy, putting and chipping

We will also be learning how to play netball. We will be practising our passing and shooting skills and developing our movement and our understanding of defending in order to play competitively.