



Harwell Community Primary School

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Monday 4th September 2023

Dear Parents,

I hope you all enjoyed the Summer. It is great to be back and I cannot wait for us to get stuck into our first term in Year Three.

Over the coming year, we will encourage your children as confident and responsible learners. I would like to take this opportunity to outline some important Class 3 routines that will hopefully be helpful to you.

I will be teaching the children Monday to Thursday all day and Friday mornings. Mr Gibson will be covering PPA on Friday afternoons.

The support staff will be Miss Coultas.

Upon arrival, the children need to walk around to the class themselves. An adult, from class, will be visible on the playground to guide the children around for the first few weeks and take messages to pass on.

At the end of the school day the children will be brought outside, ready to be collected.

Our topic for this term is **Fantastic Fossils**.

The driving questions for our project are: “Why do we study fossils?”

During this project we will be exploring more about Fossils and Rocks. We will look at famous Victorian explorers which will lead us into finding out more about the Victorian Era.

The outcome for our project is on **December 8th at 9:00-9:30 am**.

During this term, English and Numeracy will be linked to our Topic where appropriate. In English we will focus on grammar: Full stops, capital letter and Speech. We will write a narration for the animation and Non fiction- biographies, fact files.

Numeracy will involve consolidation and extending areas studied before, such as place value and addition and subtraction, multiplication and division.

We will read ‘Iron Man,’ By Ted Huges, in our guided reading sessions.

The children will also learn Spanish this year.

Reading

Each day, we will have a 30 minute guided reading session. Focus children will read the text aloud and a comment will be written in their books. To work on comprehension skills, the children will be given questions to answer about the text we have read.

We no longer have phonics lessons, but phonic interventions will continue.

Sports

Swimming will be on **Monday mornings**- (swimming costume and hat required)

P.E./Games will be on **Tuesday afternoons** (outdoor and indoor kit required)

To avoid lost kit, please could you ensure all clothing is clearly labeled.

Homework

Homework will be set this year.

We will continue to use Edshed for spelling. A new spelling rule will be shared weekly. We will work on these spellings during the week and have spelling test, in the form of a dictation, each Friday.

I will set weekly MyMaths for Maths homework.

In addition, three **home projects** will be set **throughout the year**. These will be topic-related and will need to be brought in to display at the outcome. The dates will be given in advance.

The **home project** for this term will be to create a piece of informative work about Fossils, Rocks or volcanoes. This could be in the form of: a poster- to give information about rock formation etc, a model of a volcano or the children could even have a go at an animation!

The children will need to plan their project which will make up part of the display.

The children will need to bring their home project in by **Wednesday 6th December** for it to be displayed during the outcome.

During this year, we are encouraging the children to become more independent in organising themselves, but we also hope that you will be happy to approach us with any queries or concerns that you may have over the year.

If you would like to discuss your child's progress or any concerns in more detail, we would be happy for you to contact us so we can discuss it further.

We will continue to use Class Dojo to post information and photos throughout the week. If there is anything we have missed or you are still unsure of, please don't hesitate to ask.

We look forward to a fun and productive year!

Best Wishes,

Mrs Chapman and the Year 3 team.