

YEAR 3 AMBER CLASS

AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER

A very warm welcome to Amber Class! I hope you had a restful holiday and feel refreshed, ready for the coming year. We have a busy term ahead of us, continuing to work through the Primary National Curriculum and beginning our exciting topics. This newsletter will give you an insight into some of the work we will be covering and will provide some helpful reminders.

Raffle tickets

In Year 3 this year we will be using raffle tickets. As a class, we have produced a list of things that we can do to earn raffle tickets, such as helping others and working hard to complete personal targets. If a child is awarded a raffle ticket, their name will be written on it and all raffle tickets will be put into a pot. Two winners will be drawn randomly on Friday afternoons, and they will be able to choose a small prize from our prize box.

Homework and spellings

The children will be getting topic and Mathletics/Spellodrome home learning on alternating weeks. These will be set on a Monday and will be due the following Monday. A grid for the Topic work has been sent out and we have already had some fantastic pieces of homework handed in. The children have their Mathletics/Spellodrome logins in the back of their contact books.

If your child does not have access to the internet at home there is a Mathletics and Spellodrome club running every lunchtime. If you have any questions about this please ask me.

We are always very grateful for your support and if you can ensure that your child completes their home learning neatly and by the correct day it will be much appreciated.

Reading

The children are expected to read for at least 15 minutes EVERY day. The children must record this in the reading record page in the contact books and an adult should sign it. Please listen to them read at least once a week and record this in the contact books. We are really focusing on them **understanding vocabulary**, so please make sure they have a dictionary, ipad or computer to look up words they do not understand whilst they are reading. Or encourage them to ask you the meaning of unknown words.

The children in Amber class also have the chance to complete a book review sheet whenever they read a book. This is not compulsory, but is a good way to encourage them to talk about the book. Children who submit a book review form during the week will be given an extra raffle ticket.

Computing

This term, the children will be learning about the benefits to using the internet and how to stay safe when using this technology. They will also be learning how to create and use artwork on a computer, and how to carry out research using the internet.

P.E

The children will have PE lessons on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons so it is necessary for your child to have a full, named PE kit in school on these days (this does include plimsolls or trainers for outdoor PE sessions). Please ensure that the children are prepared as the lesson could be indoors or outdoors depending on the topic and the weather.

Over the course of the term, the children will be developing their skills through a number of gymnastic activities, and will also be having outdoor sessions with Fitness4Schools, who will be focusing on cricket skills with the children this half term.

R.E

This term the children will be learning about what Christians learn from the creation story and what it's like for someone to follow God. In these units children will make sense of belief by placing the concepts of God and Creation on a timeline of the Bible's big story, describe how and why Christians might pray to God, say sorry and ask for forgiveness and ask questions and suggest answers about what might be important in the Creation story for people living today.

Cornerstones

Our first topic in the autumn term is Tribal Tales, which is based on History. The children will learn all about The Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age, what changes occurred in Britain over these periods, and how historians know about all of this.

After half term we will move on to a topic called Tremors, which is based on Geography. As part of this topic they will be learning about physical geography and its effects, such as earthquakes and volcanoes. As part of this topic, we will be going to the National History Museum on **Friday 23rd November**.

We will be inviting the parents in at the end of each topic to see what the children have been learning; our first Express will take place on **Wednesday 17th October at 3pm** in the classroom.

Science

Our topic in science this half term is 'Our Changing World'. As part of this topic, the children will keep a 'tree diary', which they will add to throughout the year to observe how the tree changes at different times of the year. We will also be looking at how seeds are dispersed and key features of a plant.

After the half term holiday, we will begin the topic 'Rock Detectives'. During this topic, we will learn about rocks, their relationship to soils and how fossils have formed over time. We will also link our understanding of rocks to the Cornerstones topic to talk about how rocks affect earthquakes.

PSHE

In PSHE this term the children will be looking at the topic 'Being me in my world'. Throughout this topic we will think about getting to know each other, our nightmare school, our dream school, rewards and consequences, our learning charter and owning our learning charter. After half term we will be looking at the topic 'Celebrating difference'. In this topic we will cover families, family conflicts, and words that harm and compliments.

French

The children start to learn French in Key Stage 2 and they will have a French lesson every week. We will be working through the Rigolo scheme which is a fun and interactive scheme that helps them to learn the French language.

Contact Books

The children will continue to bring home contact books. These will be signed on a weekly basis in school and we would appreciate you doing the same at home. If you have any messages for the teachers please use the contact book.

I look forward to a happy and successful year!

Miss Curtis