

Year 3 Newsletter (Autumn)

Our topic this term: **Mexico**

Welcome Year 3, your child's first term in their next school chapter. We would just like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Year 3.

- Mr Buksztel and Mrs Room will be teaching in Meerkat class
- Mrs Newman and Mrs Bailey will be teaching in Lion class

You will receive a newsletter every term. This will be available on the website under our class page. Please check this page regularly as we will upload the texts we will be learning and photos of what we have achieved.



English

Our new genre for the term is **traditional tales** and we will be studying the text **Juan and the Magic Paintbrush**. We will be learning the text and then creating our own version. We have provided a copy for you to share at home. Later in the term we will look at **instructions**.

Children will learn a class text and then complete their own. These will then go up onto a display to show the start of Year 3's fantastic work!

At home:

Spelling - Help children recap key word spellings. Have a look through their homework, are there any words that are spelt wrong? Go through and correct these words together. Learn weekly spellings.

Handwriting - We are having a big push on handwriting. Help children by showing them how to form letters correctly, including in their homework books.

Reading- Read with your child each evening and write a comment in their reading diary. Adults will regularly update your child's reading record if they are read with.

English homework is set fortnightly on a Friday.

Maths

In maths we are concentrating on **number, time and shape**. We will be learning the 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 10 times tables across the year.

Each week your child will work on a different topic and this will be reflected in their weekly homework.



At home:

Times tables- We are trying extremely hard to achieve our times tables championships in Year 3. Please practise times tables at home with your child. Maths homework is set fortnightly on a Friday

PE

Our PE slots for the year are as follows:

Meerkats – Tuesday and Friday

Lions – Tuesday and Wednesday

This term we will be learning football and netball skills.

To help us out please could their PE kits be in school all week. One session will be outside each week, so please ensure your child has black tracksuit trousers and a red Beecroft jumper especially as the weather gets colder. Your child will be trying their hand at multi-sports and gymnastics this term.

At home:

PE kit should be a white t-shirt, black or blue coloured shorts, black tracksuit trousers, red jumper and trainers or plimsolls. Make sure all their kit is labelled clearly with their name and class and is kept in a named bag in a box.

Creative curriculum

Our topic this half term is **Mexico**. The children will be learning all about the country of Mexico. They will compare their school to Mexican school before working with atlases. The children will have the opportunity to look at some examples of Mexican art and make their own.



At home:

Each week your child will bring home their homework log. In this you will receive fortnightly maths and English homework and their work linked to the creative curriculum. You and your child may choose to complete any of the activities on the front sheet of your log when you would like.

Science:

In our science lessons in Year 3 we will be looking closely at different types of **rocks and soils**. We will be conducting a walk around the school to look at examples of the rocks we learn about.

Reminders and dates

Uniform: Please make sure that all new uniform is clearly labelled in case it is misplaced. That way it can be returned to the correct class as soon as it is located.

Website: Remember to check the class pages regularly for newsletters, texts, updates and photos from work in class.

Homework: This will be sent home every Friday and is due in on the Wednesday of the week after. Homework will now be set by the class teacher and will be weekly. It will alternate between maths and English.

Tuesday 13th September- Roald Dahl dress up day

Friday 23rd September- Jeans for genes day

Friday 30th September- School photographs

Friday 14th October- Halloween disco

Friday 21st October – Mexicolore Workshop come to Beecroft Academy.

Friday 28th November – Lion Class assembly.

Friday 5th December – Meerkat Class assembly.

The Magic Brush

Long, long ago in Mexico there lived a poor boy called Juan. He loved drawing but he was too poor to have a paintbrush so he used a stick. He would draw in the sand or scratch marks on walls.

One day when Juan was by the river, he saw a large, silver fish trapped in the reeds by the riverbank. The fish was struggling to get free. Juan felt sorry for the fish so he helped to release it.

Later that day Juan was sleeping. In his dream a man dressed in a silver cloak spoke to him. "You are a kind boy Juan. I am giving you a magic brush. Use it to help the poor." Juan woke with a start, and lying beside him was a paintbrush.

So Juan painted the shape of a butterfly in the earth. It transformed into a real butterfly and floated away. Juan was amazed with his gift and ran straight back to the village to see how he could help the poor people.

He painted a donkey for the young mother to help her carry her goods, he painted an ox to help the farmer pull his plough and he painted a hoe for the old lady to weed her garden. Every day he found a new use for the paintbrush.

The emperor heard of Juan and his magic brush. He sent for Juan and ordered him to paint a field of golden corn. Juan didn't want to obey the greedy emperor's orders so he drew a sea with a miniscule island in the distance.

"Where is my field of gold?" bellowed the emperor.

"Just here," replied Juan, drawing a tiny field on the island.

"Paint me a boat so that I can travel to the island," snarled the emperor. So Juan painted a boat. The emperor climbed in and Juan swiftly drew the north wind blowing towards the island.

"I'm going too slowly," roared the emperor. "Paint stronger wind."

So Juan drew a storm. The waves grew rougher than the deadliest of storms until the boat capsized and the emperor disappeared.

Juan drew a white horse so he could ride home and tell his companions what had happened to the greedy emperor who wanted too much for himself.