

Year 3 Newsletter (Summer)



Welcome

- Meerkat Class will be taught by Mr Buksztel and supported by Mrs Room
- Lion Class will be taught by Miss Latif and supported by Mrs Church

English: Our new genre for the term is **myths and legends** and we will be studying the text the **King Midas and the Golden Touch**. We will be learning the text and then creating our own version of a myth centred around the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights). Later in the term we are covering **explanation texts** and looking at the text **how to a spider catches its prey**. We then progress onto **adventure stories (The Caravan)**, **persuasive writing** (and a dilemma for the children to decide) and we end the year with a look a further look at **poetry**.

Maths: To begin with in the Summer Term we are covering **data handling** and the different ways we can record data before then analysing and interpreting it. Following this Meerkats will learn about **angles** before two weeks follow on **multiplication and division** and the formal methods used to solve both. Finally, during Summer 1 we will look at **money**, which will include solving problems including change and the identification of different coins.

Summer 2 begins with a look at **addition** followed by **subtraction** and formal written methods to solve sums as well as word problems. Our maths learning continues through a week studying **measure**, where we will use units such as kilograms, centimetres and litres. The following weeks incorporate looking at **time, money and skills**.

At home: Practice your times tables by the end of year three we should know our 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 times tables. The children spend time in school working on these so help at home is beneficial.

PE: Our PE slots for the year are as follows:

Meerkats: Tuesday and Friday

Lions: Tuesday and Wednesday

This term we will be focusing on learning skills from the following sports and activities: **tennis, outdoor adventurous activities, athletics and rounders**.

Topic: Our topic this half term is the **Stone Age**. We will study the Stone Age from its origins and throughout its duration in British history. During our learning we will study the lifestyle that both men and women led during this time as well as the range of weapons that the hunter gatherers would use. Our learning also sees us studying the development of various housing.

The second part of our summer term sees us look closely at **Plants**. We link our science work closely in with the work we complete in topic through designing move plants in DT to sketching

Year 3 Newsletter (Summer)



flowers and plants as part of our art work. Finally, we will study the local area completing some field work at Dunstable Downs.

Science: In our science lessons in Year 3 we will be looking closely at different types of plants in our topic **How does your garden grow?** Our science investigations look to give the children as many practical opportunities as possible to help make the learning relevant and contextual. For example, we will explore the effect of leaves on plants.

French: The children will be learning a new language this year. They will have Mrs Tallet teaching them French. This will be once a week and the children will continue to develop their understanding of the basics of the language building towards having their own conversations and asking/answering questions.

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.

Dates:

Monday 24th April: INSET DAY

Tuesday 25th April: Children back to school

Monday 1st May: Bank Holiday Monday

Friday 26th May: End of Summer 1

Monday 29th May: Friday 2nd June – Half Term

Monday 4th June: Children back to school

Monday 12th June: My Money Week

Friday 23rd June: Year 3 and Year 4 Sports Day @11:00

Tuesday 4th July- Wednesday 5th July: Transition days (children to their new classes)

Friday 14th July: School reports to be sent home

Friday 21st July: Last day of term

Tuesday 5th September: Children return to school

Please make sure that you check the Calendar section on our school website, as dates are subject to change and new dates are regularly added.

<http://beecroftacademy.co.uk/calendar/>

Year 3 Newsletter (Summer)



King Midas and the Golden Touch

Long ago, so the old stories tell us, King Midas ruled the land of Greece. He had everything that money could buy, but he wasn't happy. He lived in a huge palace made of fine white marble, but he wanted a bigger and better one.

More than anything else, King Midas loved counting his money and piling it into great shining heaps of gold, but always he wanted more. Once, as he was walking in the garden, the king was surprised to hear someone call his name.

One morning the sun shone, the birds sang in the trees and silver dragonflies came spinning across the pond. King Midas should have been smiling but he was his usual grumpy self. 'What scoundrel is hiding in my garden?' he scowled. The king was astonished to see Silenus, a friend of the god Dionysus. 'What are you doing here?' King Midas asked.

'I'm lost, I'm growing old and sometimes I forget where I am,' Silenus said. Instead of sending him away, Midas ordered his servants to prepare a feast for him. After they had eaten, the king called for a carriage and sent Silenus back to Dionysus. The god was so pleased that Midas had helped his old friend that he offered to grant him a wish.

King Midas had only one wish in the world. 'I wish that everything I touch would turn to gold,' he said, his eyes lighting up. So the god kept his promise. The next day, as King Midas wandered through his garden, he touched first a perfect pink rose which turned to gold in his hand. He reached up to an apple. Again it turned to gold. He picked up stones, birds' eggs, snail shells – all turned gold. He smiled.

Every hour of the day his servants followed their king, packing the gold into great deep sacks. 'Take it to my room, I'll see to it after lunch.' But everything he tried to eat – bread, meat, a bunch of grapes – turned to gold and cracked his teeth. He tried to take a sip of wine but that, too, flowed into his mouth like melted gold. 'I'm hungry and thirsty and I hate all this gold!' He rushed back to Dionysus and begged him to undo his magic. 'I'll never be so foolish and greedy again as long as I live,' he promised.

Dionysus was sorry for King Midas and sent him to bathe in the River Pactolus so that the golden magic could be washed away. And people say, that even now, the river shines gold in the sun.