



Downside Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss Karen Hooker

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Dear Parents and Carers of Year 3 Children,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back after the Christmas holidays; it is nice to see the children enthusiastic, ready to learn and smartly dressed in their school uniform.

Continuing with our creative curriculum, our topics for this term are 'The Hatters' (a study of the hat industry in Luton) followed by a book study. Much of our writing will be linked to these: the children will write information texts about Luton, explore a poem about hats and write a story based in the Victorian workhouses.

In Numeracy, we will continue to focus on learning our times tables. By the end of Year 3, your child is expected to quickly recall the 2x, 3x, 4x, 5x, 8x and 10x tables and their division facts: please support this by ensuring your child practises these at home. We will be using these to teach the formal written methods for multiplication and division. During the term, we will also solve money problems and look at different types of graphs. In the second half of the term, we will return to developing a greater understanding of fractions

Our science topic for the Spring Term is based on Electricity. We will construct simple series circuits, identifying and naming their basic parts. We will also look at some common conductors and insulators. Our topic will culminate in us solving a problem by creating a simple alarm.

In PE, children will practise the skills necessary for playing basketball and learn to choose appropriate tactics and strategies to play invasion games. Children will also be introduced to the basic principles and skills of gymnastics. In the following half term the children will begin to look at the skills used in indoor golf and ultimate frisbee.

Our RE for this term will have the children thinking about what it means to be a Hindu, how we should live and who should inspire us.

Spanish lessons will continue and the children will apply the words they have already learnt so they can speak in full sentences.

In Music, the children will continue with drumming lessons, practising different rhythms. They will also be learning how to sing a scale in tune.



The children will have regular access to a laptop and use software and the internet to research topics in other subjects. Please encourage your child to use Mathematics and Times tables Rock Stars at home to support their learning.

The children receive homework tasks on their rainbow homework menu as well as maths and grammar homework weekly. They also need to continue to practise their weekly spellings and times tables at home. If you could support your child with these, listen to them read on a regular basis and discuss the books they have read and the work they do in school, then it will really help their learning and enable them to make the most of school.

Yours sincerely,

Miss H Bell
Year 3 Assistant Headteacher