



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 Easter break; it is nice to see the children so enthusiastic, ready to learn and smartly dressed in school uniform. It has been a pleasure to see your children transition in their learning journeys from the beginning of the year to now. We have a busy half term planned.

Parents have highlighted that they would like further information about what their child is learning and therefore this letter should give you a more detailed insight into our topics and learning for this half term.

Literacy:

In Literacy, children will be reading and writing Carnival poetry, writing a descriptive setting description and writing information reports. We will also focus on grammar, spelling and handwriting skills at a year 3 level.

Our teaching will be broadly in line with the following plan:

Week 1	<u>Poetry:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- understand how a mood has been created with words in poetry- describe the effect of a poem on the reader- write about the choice of words and their impact- use words and phrases to create an effect in poetry
Week 2	<u>Descriptive writing:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- generate vocabulary for descriptive writing- identify what elements a writer uses in descriptive writing e.g. noun phrases, use of senses- use 'show not tell' to describe emotions objects or events
Week 3	<u>Descriptive writing:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- use subordinate clauses effectively- make a plan for descriptive writing- write a descriptive paragraph- use comments effectively to edit and improve a paragraph
Week 4	<u>Information text:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- understand the purpose and features of an information report- use of powerful vocabulary (adjectives and verbs)- write sentences using present perfect verbs



Week 5	<u>Information text:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - identify and use subordinate clauses - plan an accurate information report - write an accurate information report - use comments effectively to edit and improve a paragraph 												
Week 6	<u>Grammar:</u> <table border="1" data-bbox="384 315 1326 831"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Year 3: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Word</td> <td> Formation of nouns using a range of prefixes [for example <i>super-</i>, <i>anti-</i>, <i>auto-</i>] Use of the forms <i>a</i> or <i>an</i> according to whether the next word begins with a consonant or a vowel [for example, <i>a</i> rock, <i>an</i> open box] Word families based on common words, showing how words are related in form and meaning [for example, <i>solve</i>, <i>solution</i>, <i>solver</i>, <i>dissolve</i>, <i>insoluble</i>] </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sentence</td> <td> Expressing time, place and cause using conjunctions [for example, <i>when</i>, <i>before</i>, <i>after</i>, <i>while</i>, <i>so</i>, <i>because</i>], adverbs [for example, <i>then</i>, <i>next</i>, <i>soon</i>, <i>therefore</i>], or prepositions [for example, <i>before</i>, <i>after</i>, <i>during</i>, <i>in</i>, <i>because of</i>] </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Text</td> <td> Introduction to paragraphs as a way to group related material Headings and sub-headings to aid presentation Use of the present perfect form of verbs instead of the simple past [for example, <i>He has gone out to play</i> contrasted with <i>He went out to play</i>] </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Punctuation</td> <td> Introduction to inverted commas to punctuate direct speech </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Terminology for pupils</td> <td> adverb, preposition conjunction word family, prefix clause, subordinate clause direct speech consonant, consonant letter vowel, vowel letter inverted commas (or 'speech marks') </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year 3: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)		Word	Formation of nouns using a range of prefixes [for example <i>super-</i> , <i>anti-</i> , <i>auto-</i>] Use of the forms <i>a</i> or <i>an</i> according to whether the next word begins with a consonant or a vowel [for example, <i>a</i> rock, <i>an</i> open box] Word families based on common words, showing how words are related in form and meaning [for example, <i>solve</i> , <i>solution</i> , <i>solver</i> , <i>dissolve</i> , <i>insoluble</i>]	Sentence	Expressing time, place and cause using conjunctions [for example, <i>when</i> , <i>before</i> , <i>after</i> , <i>while</i> , <i>so</i> , <i>because</i>], adverbs [for example, <i>then</i> , <i>next</i> , <i>soon</i> , <i>therefore</i>], or prepositions [for example, <i>before</i> , <i>after</i> , <i>during</i> , <i>in</i> , <i>because of</i>]	Text	Introduction to paragraphs as a way to group related material Headings and sub-headings to aid presentation Use of the present perfect form of verbs instead of the simple past [for example, <i>He has gone out to play</i> contrasted with <i>He went out to play</i>]	Punctuation	Introduction to inverted commas to punctuate direct speech	Terminology for pupils	adverb, preposition conjunction word family, prefix clause, subordinate clause direct speech consonant, consonant letter vowel, vowel letter inverted commas (or 'speech marks')
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We will also be reading – The Firework Maker’s Daughter by Philip Pullman.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU00esrkogUkAIf30Sdi2zw7848IU1IBf>

If for any reason your child is absent from school and misses a reading lesson - follow the link above – the story is read and your child will be able to see the text. The story is read chapter by chapter.

Maths:

In Maths, we will continue to develop the children’s understanding of fractions as well as improving their understanding of problem solving and reasoning. We will also be revisiting Time where we will be looking at telling the time accurately and calculating time duration. We will finish the half term with a unit of work on Shape. Children will also continue to practise and develop their understanding of the four operations of number in Arithmetic lessons and in daily quick recall of their times tables.

Our teaching will be broadly in line with the following plan:

Week 1	<u>Fractions:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - understand what equivalence means - identify some equivalent fractions - understand equivalent fractions and solve problems
Week 2	<u>Fractions:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - represent equivalent fractions pictorially and on a number line - compare unit fractions and fractions - compare and order unit fractions and fractions with the same denominator
Week 3	<u>Fractions:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - add fractions with the same denominator - subtract fractions - solve real life problems involving fractions
Week 4	<u>Time:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tell the time to the nearest minute - draw the hands on a clock, to show a time to the nearest minute - make the link between digital and analogue times - use a.m. and p.m. accurately to describe a time - understand 12 hour and 24 hour times

	- convert a time from 24 hour to a.m. / p.m. and vice versa.
Week 5	<u>Time:</u> - Find the duration of an event - compare durations of time - add and subtract time to find the start or end times of events - understand seconds - convert times from minutes to seconds
Week 6	<u>Shape:</u> - Compare the size of angles in relation to a right angle. - Understand the terms 'acute' and 'obtuse'. - draw a line accurately (to cm and mm) - understand what vertical and horizontal lines are - understand what parallel and perpendicular lines are

Science

In Science, we will be learning about: How energy travels. Key knowledge taught will be:

- Forces travel through a medium
- Light travels in straight lines
- Light travels through transparent material (including air)
- Sound travels in waves
- Sound travels through gases (air) solids (doors) and liquids (water)
- Electricity travels through electrical conductors
- Electricity only travels when there is a complete circuit

The children will also learn about the following safety aspects:

- Looking directly at the Sun can damage your eyes
- Very loud sounds can damage hearing
- Dangers of electricity in the house – mains electricity in water, electrical appliances/ sockets that are damaged or poked with metal.

Geography

Our Geography for this half term is 'Carnival' and involves a comparison of locations. Last half term, the children studied the geographical features of Luton in detail. This half term, they will use this knowledge to make geographical comparisons with a region quite different from the UK – Rio De Janeiro. They will learn how the location, human and physical features and climate differ. We will also be developing the children's skills in locating places on a map, labelling physical features on a map and using atlases to find data.

RE

Our RE this term will revolve around the topic: Why do some people think that life is a journey? As a part of this unit, children will learn how different religions mark significant events in life. The children will have the chance to demonstrate the knowledge they have gained through completing various tasks such as: diary entries, postcard writing and Venn diagrams.

ICT

During ICT lessons, the children will make a short movie using 'iMovie' and learn to edit and add a commentary. This will be a cross curricular unit and children will have an opportunity to apply their geographical knowledge.

DT

We will be cooking in DT this half term! The children will learn to identify vegetables and learn about where they come from. They will research how different cultures cook and eat vegetables and use a variety of recipes. We will be making: Chunky Vegetable soup and Tomato and Pepper soup. Yum!

The children will be learning to use a variety of skills: claw grip to cut harder food using a serrated knife; bridge and claw to cut soft vegetables; how to peel harder food and how to cut

food into strips or cubes. Throughout the unit, children will learn how to safely use the equipment and prepare food in a hygienic manner.

PE

For indoor P.E lessons this half term, children will learn the skills of Tennis and for outdoor P.E lessons, they will be developing skills of striking and fielding. By the end of both units, they will have developed adequate skills to play short games.

Please remember that on your child's PE days, they **should not** wear their P.E kits to school.

Music

We are very lucky in Year 3 to have a specialist Drumming teacher. The children thoroughly enjoy these sessions on a Monday morning. This half term the focus will be on the following skills:

- play rhythms on different parts of the djembe drum
- name different note values
- learn performance skills on the djembe drum
- using voice to accompany a performance

MFL

In Spanish, the children will begin to learn the days of the week and the name of some foods. By the end of the unit, children will be able to say and write simple sentences in Spanish.

As we will be learning about Carnival, we are hoping to book a few sessions with Luton's Carnival Arts team so watch this space!

The children receive homework tasks on Google Classroom on a weekly basis as well as times tables and spellings rules to learn 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 their time in school.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support so far this year especially as it is the first 'normal' year of learning for children in the last three years. I am very proud of how hard the children work. I hope the information in this letter will help you to continue your valuable support at home and together we can ensure your child reaches their full potential.

Should you have any queries, please email on yr3@downside-primary.co.uk and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs H. Ali
Year 3 Leader