



# Welcome to your first term!

"The more that you **read**, the more things you will know. The more that you **learn**, the more places you'll go." Dr Seuss

## Term 1a - Autumn

by Mrs Bradwell

Welcome to (or back to) Class 3. We have had a fantastic start to the academic year! I am so pleased to inform you; that everyone is settling back into school with a positive and mature attitude and I am so proud of how well everyone has accepted our new rules and routines.

I have included an outline of the curriculum for this half term for your child.

### Homework

We are planning for homework to be accessible online with a focus on times tables, reading, spelling and maths skills; more information about how to access this will be sent out soon.

Weekly spellings will be set as part of homework. The spelling lists for this term will be added to our school website in the Class 3 section. It would be very beneficial to your child to support them when practising their spellings each week. Every Monday, the children will be tested on these spellings, before they are taught the new spelling rule for that week.

School diaries will be issued soon and reading books will be changed once a week. It would be very helpful to send books back on time in order for them to be quarantined before going out again the following week. **The impact of regular reading at home on children's progress cannot be underestimated.** I have encouraged the children to take an active role in their reading this year and have asked them to make additional comments (to yours) in their diaries to reflect on their reading and progress at home and in school. We have a class library available to the children and they have

selected a book of their choice to read during school time.

### Maths

Children will focus on various aspects of numeracy. There will be a big focus on number and place value which will include some practical activities, working outdoors and problem solving. We will also solve problems involving all four operations, using maths in real life contexts. There will also be a big emphasis on times tables - more information to follow.

### English

Over the term we will be reading *The Leopard in the Golden Cage* by Julia Edwards. The novel relates to the class topic: **Romans**. I am looking forward to introducing the class novel to the children and sharing the main character's adventures as he travels back in time. We will use this as a stimulus for writing. The key areas of focus will be character and setting description and story writing. We will be revising basic punctuation as well as having a weekly grammar lesson and a guided reading session.

### Science

Miss Jewett will be teaching the topic 'Animals including humans' They will be studying eating and the digestive system.

### PE

Our PE day is a Friday and we are fortunate to have a gymnastics coach to lead our lessons on a Friday morning. Please make sure your child comes to school wearing their 'outdoor' PE kit so that they are warm throughout the day. Please also make sure they are wearing sensible footwear. We ask for long hair to

be tied back and all jewellery to be removed. If you have any questions about this, please get in touch.

### DT

The children will be designing, making and evaluating a catapult which the Romans would have used. The children will use pneumatics to control the catapult.

### Computing

Mrs Mowbray will be teaching computing and the children will be learning about e-safety; thinking about the importance of screen time and how to stay safe online.

### RE

Miss Jewett will be teaching the children to explore the importance of identity and belonging.

### Spanish

Miss Forth will be continuing to teach Spanish. The children will learn basic classroom instructions and recap numbers and colours.

### History

Linking to our topic, we will be exploring the Romans; thinking about why the Romans marched through County Durham.

It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to teach your children again and I look forward to the year ahead! Should you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Kind Regards

Mrs Bradwell