

September 2009



Miss Farmer
Mr Coates

Year 3 Newsletter

Welcome back to *Hopping Hill Primary* as a Year 3 parent. A new school year means lots of new and exciting challenges for your child. Here is some information about the first term and our connector '**Environments**'.

Our first connector will be a fun and exciting trip through different environments, with a specific focus on rainforests. In geography, children will be learning all about the rainforests; where they are and why they are so important, as well as looking at how these environments are changing and ways in which people are involved in this. Children will be encouraged to think about what impact this may have on the world and consider things that can be done to help.



The children will also be learning about plants and what they need to grow well as part of our Science work. This unit will revisit some of the children's previous learning on plants and growth and build on this knowledge to explain various processes.

Children will also be learning about different materials and their characteristics in science. During this unit they will be making observations and carrying out investigations.

Literacy

In literacy we have 3 very exciting units.

- Adventure stories – children will be exploring adventure stories in detail, looking at language used and writing some very exciting adventure stories of their own.
- Reports – children will be reading different reports before they become journalists and write their own! We then hope to use the ICT equipment to record them.
- Play – children will understand how plays are set out and how they are used. They will also be writing their own plays and acting them out.

Children will be learning high frequency spellings as part of their homework.

Please encourage them to practice their spellings at home.



Numeracy

We will be learning all about numbers and pushing strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We shall also be learning about space and shapes, including angles and symmetry. Children will also be learning about fractions, time, measures and money. All these units build upon children's prior learning.

Children will be learning number bonds as part of their homework. Please encourage them to practice everyday.

FRENCH

We will be experimenting with simple French words, greetings and phrases as well as learning about life in France and key facts about the country.

ART

Art this term focuses on shape and patterns. We will be looking at patterns in nature and creating some lovely rainforest pictures using different print techniques. We will also be looking at collage to make story settings for our plays in literacy.

ICT

We will be looking at different software programmes and how to use them as well as using the internet. We will be using the floor turtles to help us with programming instructions.

PSHE

Changes and relationships.

PE

Before half term we will be focussing on gymnastics and invasion games and after half term children will be doing dance and ball skills.

PE kit (indoor and outdoor) must be in school everyday and can be kept in school. We have hall time on Wednesdays but as our curriculum is so flexible, we may do outdoor PE on any day.

RE

This term we will be looking at Christianity with a main focus on Jesus, who he was and some of the things that people believe he did.

Homework

As well as daily reading, spelling and number bonds, projects will be set 3 times a year. You will be informed about content and requirements nearer the time. Please encourage your child to work as independently as they can to research and complete their projects.

Information

Your child will need to bring their *communication book, number bonds card, high frequency card and reading books* in to school everyday. *Communication books* need to be signed weekly as you comment on their homework; these will be checked by the class teacher.

We welcome any letters and comments in the communication book; your child knows how to make us aware of important notes etc.

If you have any concerns then come in and see us.

We will be offering the children an exciting opportunity to experience life in a rainforest. On the 20th October, we have a special visitor coming in to share with us what life is like in the rainforest, including bringing in animals and tropical food. More details will follow.