



**Barkisland CE (VA) Primary School**  
**WE BELIEVE, WE NURTURE, WE SUCCEED!**

# **Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter**

- This newsletter will give you an overview of the learning for your child this term.
- If you have any further questions or would like to discuss anything in more detail, please make an appointment to speak or meet with us. Thank you.

Miss Walsh and Mrs Clark

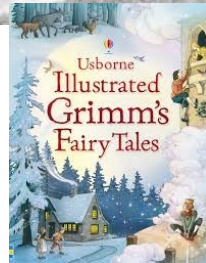
**Spring Term 2024**

## English

Our English work this first half term will be centred around the text, 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Browne. We will identify links and clues which reference traditional tales, then focus on writing a powerful character description.

During the second half term, our focus text will be 'Grimm's Fairy tales'. We will use these traditional tales as a basis for setting descriptions, and to create non-chronological reports about woodland creatures we have encountered in the fairy tales.

We will be following the Grammarsaurus approach to teaching English.

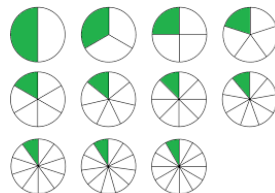
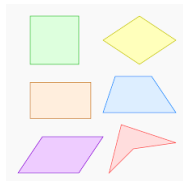


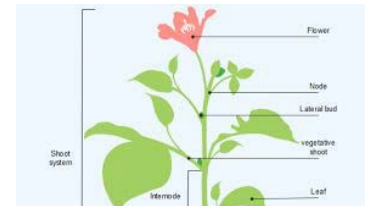
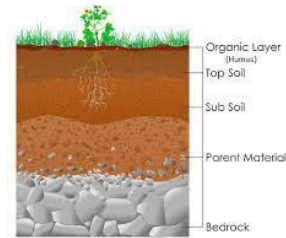
## Mathematics

This term we will be developing our Mathematical knowledge, understanding and skills in the following areas ...

- Multiplication and Division
- Length and perimeter
- Fractions

Please refer to the more detailed overview for Mathematics for this term.





## Science

Our Science focus this first half term is 'Rocks and Soils'. We follow the Grammarsaurus scheme and will learn the following: What are rocks? Are all rocks the same? How are rocks formed? Which rocks make up the Earth? What are soils? And How are fossils formed? This science topic is only taught in Year 3. They will not do any further work on rocks and soils until High School.

In Spring 2, our Science focus will be Plants. Our learning follows on from KS1 when the children learnt about different plants and trees (Y1) and how plants grow from seeds and bulbs and what plants need to grow and stay healthy (Y2). In Year 3, the children will learn: What do plants need? Do the different parts of the plant have a function? What are roots? How do plants transport water? How do plants reproduce? How are seeds dispersed?

## Religious Education

This half term we will be exploring Creation and Fall. This will ask questions about the very beginning of time when God created everything in 6 days. In this we will be looking at Adam and Eve and asking questions about the importance of following rules which will lead us onto the 10 commandments.

## Computing

Our first computing focus will be programming. The children will learn many things, including how to create and debug an algorithm and draw different shapes. In Spring 2, we will move onto Internet Research and Communication. Our learning will include how to search; saving and sharing; how we communicate online and word order.

In addition, we will have E-Safety day where we will learn about how to create strong passwords and understand privacy settings. We will also cover what to do if they are frightened or worried by something seen or read online and how to report concerns.

## History / Geography

The topic this term is a Geography topic, titled 'The United Kingdom'. This will be a study of The UK.

During this topic, we will be:

- learning the difference between the British Isles, the United Kingdom and Great Britain.
- Identifying the flags for countries in the British Isles and the capital cities of the countries in the UK.
- Using an Atlas to find and label major cities around the UK.
- Using compass points to identify the direction of travel between these major cities.
- Researching the human, physical and topographical features within the United Kingdom.
- Exploring how land use patterns have changed over time.
- Recognising our own region's key features.



## Homework

Our Maths, English, Spellings and Talking Homework will be set each Wednesday. The return date will be the following Monday.

This will be typically be set using Seesaw and My Maths.

Log-ins for this will be the same as before, but if you have misplaced these please send us a message and we will send them home again. Spellings will be tested at the end of each 3 week block on a Friday.



## Physical Education



Our PE this first half term will focus on gymnastics and hockey. In gymnastics, pupils will work on balancing, rolling and jumping. This will help them develop flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance. In hockey, we will be learning how to hold the stick, dribble the ball, move with the ball and stop it and send to a team player. It is an invasion game so team work will be key. Control and precision will be new skills learnt by the children.

In Spring 2, our indoor PE will be a dance unit and outdoor PE is netball. In dance, pupils will create dances in relation to an idea by working individually, with a partner and in small groups, sharing their ideas. Pupils will also develop their use of counting and rhythm. In netball, pupils will develop their understanding of the importance of fair play and honesty while self-managing games and learning and abiding by key rules, as well as evaluating their own and others' performances.

Indoor Kit: pumps, blue t-shirt and navy shorts.

Outdoor Kit: school or navy hoodie, navy tracksuit bottoms, shorts, t-shirt and trainers.

Miss Walsh teaches on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. During these days, in addition to Maths, Guided Reading and English, the children will have Music and Art/DT (Mondays), PE and Computing (Tuesdays) and Science (Wednesdays).

Mrs Clark teaches on Thursdays and Fridays. In addition to teaching Maths, Guided Reading and English, Mrs Clark is in charge of teaching Topic and PE (Thursdays), RE and Spanish (Fridays).

## PSHE

Our PSHE topic will be Health and well-being. Our new focus question is: What keeps us safe?

We will be covering a range of issues such as hazards, bacteria, personal hygiene, medicines, physical contact and how to keep ourselves safe.



## Reading



In Year 3, some children are continuing on their Monster Phonics journey and will have their group session every week. **Please can parents ensure their child returns their Monster Phonics book on the day they have their session (either Tues, Wed or Thurs).** In addition, we have our whole class Guided Reading session three times per week. We use a fantastic scheme which develops the children's skills of inference and retrieval; builds rich vocabularies; and encourages the identification of themes and comparisons between texts. Our Spring Term theme is 'First Impressions'. The saying 'Don't judge a book by its cover' is thoroughly examined in this unit, which draws links between Stephen Hawking (our non-fiction text), King Arthur (our fiction text) and the most peculiar restaurant menu children will ever have come across within our poetry work.

We have a great selection of books in our cosy book corner for the children to enjoy during the day. Children are able to choose library books which suit their different tastes, as there is something for everyone. The books in our class libraries are rotated on a half-termly basis to keep the excitement and enthusiasm alive for children in relation to reading. It is of vital importance for children to read everyday. Reading a wide range of different books stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. Please encourage your children to read at home every day, even if it is just for 10 minutes. We will also send books home for home reading. Please record the reading which has occurred at home, using the reading journals which have been sent home. In school, we have dedicated independent reading times as well as a slot for Social Reading. This will be on a Monday and the children can bring in their own reading material to share with others. This can take many forms e.g. non-fiction texts, magazines, annuals etc.

## Art /Design Technology



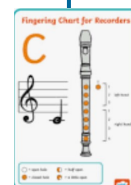
We have recently started an exciting new scheme of work in art/D.T. In Spring 1, our topic is: 'Cooking and Nutrition—Eating Seasonally'. Children will be able to: explain that fruits and vegetables grow in different countries based on their climates; understand that seasonal fruits and vegetables grow in given seasons; understand that eating seasonal fruit and vegetables positively affects the environment; design, make and evaluate a tart recipe using seasonal ingredients.



In Spring 2, our topic is: 'Sculpture and 3D—Abstract shape'. This unit focuses on teaching pupils how to transform 2D card shapes into 3D structures and sculptures. Pupils explore abstract shapes and space, develop skills in constructing 3D objects, and understand the difference between 2D and 3D art.

## Music

In Spring 1, our learning is focused around one song: Three Little Birds by Bob Marley. The material presents an integrated approach to music where games, elements of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc.), singing and playing instruments are all linked. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other Reggae songs.



In Spring 2, the children will be taught recorder again by Miss Reynolds. They will play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, playing with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.

## MFL

This term we will be learning all about animal names in Spanish and recapping numbers, colours and greetings from the previous term. We will be learning new vocabulary and progressing onto plural nouns of animals. This will lead into simple sentences about animals.

