

Where in the world is our school

**Year 3  
Curriculum Newsletter  
Autumn Term 2024**

<p><u>Staff</u> 3GH Mrs Hutchins, Year Leader 3SB Mr Blake 3RS Miss Sealy <u>Learning Support Assistants:</u> Miss Erdogan Miss Whalley Mrs Murray Mrs Coney-Jones</p>	<p><b>Year 3 Key Dates:</b> Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September  Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December</p>	<p>PTA Welcome Disco 4:30pm – 5:30pm Help in School Volunteers Meeting 2:30pm Curriculum Information meeting 3:30pm in the hall, virtual meeting 5:30pm Individual photos Parent Consultations 3:30pm – 6:30pm Parent Consultations 3:30pm – 6:30pm Last Day of Half Term INSET Day Return to School after half-term Open Morning 2:00pm Year 3 Sing-Along 2:00pm Whole School Flu Immunisation Day Carol Service 6:30pm</p>
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**Welcome to Year 3**

We hope that your child has enjoyed their first few weeks at Ringwood Junior School. They have certainly made a positive start and we have been impressed with how smart they look in their new uniform.

From all of us in Year 3, we would like to say thank you for the support you have provided in making such a positive start. We have been pleased with the children's level of confidence when moving around the school site and with how well they are settling to their learning and school life at Ringwood Junior School.

**Geography** - our main theme this term is **'Where in the world is our school?'**. This project will begin with the children exploring the school and really getting to know their new surroundings, whilst developing their **map work skills**. We will then develop their knowledge and understanding of the town of Ringwood and its proximity to important towns and cities.

**History** – we shall use our historical skills to consider the **changes and developments** that took place from the **Stone Age to the Iron Age**, including the building of Stonehenge. We will explore how evidence is used to make historical claims and look at the similarities and differences between the Stone Age and Neolithic way of life. Craig Summers will spend some time with each class exploring Stone Age life by using our school grounds. In addition, through an educational workshop, the children will be given an insight into life as it may have been from the Bronze Age through to the mid to late Iron Age.



**English** - we are reading **'Meerkat Mail'** by Emily Gravett, this will be a focus for **letter writing in character**. The next book we will study is **'Wolves'** by Emily Gravett, we will use this book as a basis for writing **non-chronological reports**. We will then move to study **'Stone Age Boy'** and we will create artefact description cards. We will then explore the book **'Snow'** by Walter De La Mare and we will be inspired to write our own Winter poems using the book **'Winter's Child'**.

**Maths** - we will be covering a range of areas including place value, mental and written methods for addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions and length, and strengthening number facts fluency with Back to Basics and daily long-term retrieval activities.

**Science** - the projects will be **Plants**: learning the functions of the parts of a plant and how plants make their own food, to provide them with the energy to grow, repair and reproduce. **Light** exploring: natural and artificial light sources, how we need light to see, light travelling through materials and how shadows are formed.

**ICT and Computing** - our focus will be on getting started using a range of ICT media including logging on, opening and sorting files and keyboard skills. We will be learning about sequence and fast and slow code using the Scratch programming environment.

**P.E.** - PE will be on **Tuesday afternoons** for this half term. We would like to remind you that children need the following PE kit in school: plain white t-shirts, black or navy blue shorts and for the outside, school fleeces (not tops with brand logos), black or navy blue tracksuit bottoms and plimsolls for indoors / trainers for outdoors. This term, we will be covering a range of skills across **ball skills, gymnastics and tag rugby**.




**French** - we will be developing your child's knowledge by learning French **conversational greetings** and beginning to learn **classroom routines**.

**P.S.H.E.** - we will be exploring the themes **Me and My Relationships** and **Valuing Differences** as we settle to life in school and explore how we feel about the changes. The children will be drawing up their **Class Charters** and looking at rights and responsibilities.

**R.E.** - The children will explore the importance of **stones as symbols** through their R.E. studies, linked to **Christianity and Islam**. Following this, there will be a project on the meaning of **angels** and their importance to Christians.

**Art** - we will be learning about **Lowry** as an artist and exploring a range of **sketching techniques** in order to sketch the school building in the style of Lowry.

**D.T.** - later in the term, we will be learning about the mechanisms used to make **pop-up information posters** all about wolves, linking to our learning in English.

 **Music** - we will be building our understanding of the **elements of music**. We shall be learning to recognise and respond to a steady beat and rhythm patterns. We will also learn several songs in readiness for the Christmas Sing-A-Long.

**Reading** - As always, reading with your child will do wonders for their reading and writing. It is very helpful to read alongside your child and talk to them about what they have read. It is useful for the children to be asked a range of who, what, where, why and when questions as they read and for them to explain their answers using what they have read. Please do record any reading completed at home in their homework diary.

**Spellings** – are issued on **Wednesday** and tested the following **Wednesday**.

**Times Table Challenge** takes place on **Wednesday**.

English and Maths homework will be set on a **Wednesday** to be completed by the following **Monday**.

**Mathletics, Reading Plus and TT Rockstars**— We provide access to a range of educational learning platforms at RJS and we encourage the children to use these as much as possible at home. Login details for these will be sent home and recorded in the children's home-work diaries. **Reading Eggs** and **Mathseeds** will be made available to pupils who need additional support.

**Useful websites:**

<https://rollama.com/login/> and <https://www.spellzone.com/> - Games to help children learn spelling rules, grammar and punctuation rules

<https://trockstars.com/> - Maths games to help children practise times tables skills.

[www.readingplus.com](http://www.readingplus.com) – English reading fluency and comprehension.

<https://community.mathletics.com/signin/#/student-> Maths activities to support the whole Maths curriculum

<https://spellingframe.co.uk/> - Interactive spelling activities for all Year 3 and Year 4 spelling rules.

Finally, we are delighted to see the children looking very smart in their new uniforms, coats and P.E kit. Please do label any property belonging to your child to make it easier to return when it is misplaced.

Should you have any ideas, concerns, questions or comments, please feel free to catch up with us after school for a quick, informal chat. We shall try hard to answer your queries and resolve any issues quickly. Alternatively, you can write positive comments or questions in your child's homework diary—please make sure your child knows the comment is in there so that they can show us in the morning.

**We will sign the homework diaries weekly on Friday** and we ask that you sign your child's homework diary on **Thursday** beforehand, so that we know you have seen it.

**Thank you for your continued support — Mrs Hutchins, Year 3 Leader and the Year 3 Team.**

