

## Curriculum Details for Year 3 and 4

### Spring Term One

Happy New Year and welcome back! As you will see, the new year has brought many changes to Year 3 and 4; Miss Millward will support the class Monday to Wednesday and Ms Champken will be with us Thursday and Friday. We look forward to an exciting year ahead!



In **English** our quality text is 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. We will begin with a letter from 'Farmer Jepson' informing us of the recent mysterious metal thefts arising in the Worcestershire area. Following this, a peculiar trail of metal objects will be found on the playground. Could it be the Iron Man?

This term Year 3/4 will become journalists and reporters while exploring the genre of Newspaper report writing. They will report on the terrifying events of the Iron Man's arrival on earth as well as his battle with the Space-Bat-Angel-Dragon. We will begin by looking at how news articles are laid out, structured and expressed. We will then work on recalling content and finally develop language appropriate for a news article. If you wish to help your child at home, First News ([www.firstnews.co.uk](http://www.firstnews.co.uk)) is a child friendly newspaper and could be used for their reading at home. Additionally, Newsround (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>) is an excellent website.

In **Mathematics** we will begin the term with a focus on division and fractions. Year 3 will learn to identify fractions of shape and quantity while Year 4 will be learning to count in quarters, thirds and tenths, find equivalent fractions and find fractions of amounts. Following this, the class will be developing strategies for division as well as developing an understanding of decimals in the context of measure.

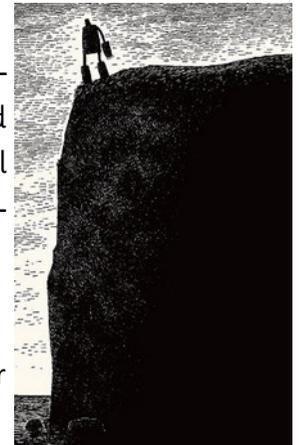
In **Science** we will complete our topic 'Animals including Humans' before moving on to 'Light'. The class will learn about light, reflections and shadows. With the continued support of local scientist, Paul Staddon, they will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate reflective materials as well as learning about the dangers of sunlight.

In **Religious Education** the children will be asked the question 'What is the Trinity?'. The children will learn that Christians believe God is Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We will also focus on the baptism of Jesus by John and identify significant symbolism within it.

On Monday afternoons, Mrs Hughes will begin teaching German. She will start with 'Greetings and Introductions'. Additionally, Mrs Hughes will continue with **Music** and **PHSE**.

In **Art** the children will be using recycled materials. We will create sculptures inspired by Ted Hughes' Iron Man as a starting point. We will make studies of the landscape through the mediums of sketches, watercolours and collages.

In **Computing** the children will continue to read and write codes used for gaming with our Chair of Governors, Colin Price.





This term our **History & Geography Topic** is 'China'. The children will use different sources to research to find out about China and the Shang Dynasty. We will be looking at how people lived, their beliefs and how this has affected modern China. We will then begin to describe the similarities and differences between China and the UK.

This year, Year 3 and 4 will perform their **Class Assembly** about a Chinese folk tale on Thursday 15th February! We cannot wait to see you there!

### Things to bring in...

**Reading Diaries:** To be handed in daily. Children should read at home or be read to at least 3 times a week (Monday-Sunday) to get their star on the Reading Chart.

**Spelling Books:** To be in school every Friday ready for the test.

**Multiplication Books:** To be in school every Monday so that individual targets can be reviewed.

**PE:** We will be learning gymnastic skills every Wednesday for this half term. The children are welcome to leave PE kits in school.

- white t-shirt - dark shorts/tracksuit bottoms - bare feet or pumps if required

**Swimming:** will be every Friday from the 12th January.

- swimsuit/trunks - goggles - towel - swimming hat - No spray/deodorants please.

### Things to do at home...

Each **Wednesday** the children will receive **Homework** which should be handed in on the following **Monday**.

**Multiplication** - It is extremely important for your child to learn their times tables in order to achieve in mathematics. Every **Monday**, the children will be tested on random recall and equivalent division facts of each times table before they progress to the next. Children will have 2 minutes to complete their test. We don't expect full marks every week but a gradual progression of success!

### Useful Websites:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/times-tables/coconut-multiples>

[http://coolsciencelab.com/sum\\_sense\\_multiplication.html](http://coolsciencelab.com/sum_sense_multiplication.html)



**Spellings** will be given out on a **Friday** and tested on the following Friday. These will relate to the National Curriculum word lists for Year 3 and 4.

**Reading Reward** - For children to earn their Reading Reward, they must have a dated signature in their Reading Diaries at least **three** times a week.

### Things to write in the diary...

Swimming starts - Friday 12th January

Year 3 and 4 class assembly - Thursday 15th February 1.30pm and 6pm

Whole school diversity day - Friday 16th February

World Book Day - Thursday 1st March (children to dress as a book character)

Outdoor Learning trip to the woods - Tuesday 13th March