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SEATHORNE PRIMARY ACADEMY

Year 3/4 Newsletter – Autumn 2

Welcome

We hope everyone has a wonderful break. The children had a busy and exciting first term, learning about the Stone Age in history and exploring forces in science. We are looking forward to building on our prehistoric learning during term 2, including an exciting history trip to enrich and bring our learning to life. We are also eager to begin our new rainforest topic, where the children will discover fascinating habitats, animals and environments from around the world. We can't wait for another fun-filled term of learning!

This newsletter details information about term 2's curriculum and what your child will be studying. It will also give you key dates at the bottom of the newsletter.

Thank you very much for your support.
If you need to contact us, please do not hesitate to arrange a meeting with us via the office at admin@seathorneprimaryacademy.org

The Year 3/4 Team

Spelling and Reading



We focus on one spelling rule per week and this is chosen from our recent assessments. We will
continue to learn the year 3 and 4 common exception words.
We will be reading a wide variety of texts, continuing to work on skills such as retrieval, inference and explanation, finding evidence in the text to support our arguments.
Our class stories are 'Stone Age Hunters, Gatherers and Woolly Mammoths' by Marcia Williams and 'A Monster Ate my Packed Lunch' by Pamela Butchart.

Writing



In English, the children will be using the book '*How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth*' by Michelle Robinson as inspiration for writing their own clear and engaging instructions. They will explore the features of instructional texts, including using imperative (bossy) verbs, time conjunctions and numbered steps to guide the reader. As part of the Year 3/4 curriculum, children will be expected to organise their ideas logically, use fronted adverbials with commas, apply accurate punctuation and spelling, and edit their work to improve clarity.

Maths



Year 3 will continue to develop their addition and subtraction skills, including adding and subtracting 3-digit numbers, estimating answers, checking calculations using inverse operations and solving a range of reasoning and problem-solving questions. They will then begin learning about **multiplication and division**, using equal groups, arrays and sharing. Children will explore the 3, 4 and 8 times tables and use these facts to solve problems.

Year 4 will further develop their written methods for addition and subtraction, including exchanging across more than one column, using efficient calculation strategies and solving increasingly complex

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multi-step problems. They will then move on to **multiplication and division**, building fluency in the 3, 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 times tables, exploring multiplication and division facts and applying their knowledge to reasoning and problem-solving activities.

Science



Sound is all around us. In science, we will be investigating how vibrations travel and how pitch and volume effect the sound we hear. The children will be investigating how distance from a noise can result in the sound they hear. The vocabulary that the children use will link with the music the children have studied.

Design and Technology

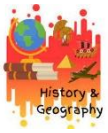


This term, in Design and Technology, our focus will be on **food and cooking**. Children will explore how the foods we eat are linked to the seasons, learning that different fruits and vegetables grow at different times of the year depending on weather conditions and growing seasons.

They will compare seasonal produce with foods that are available all year round, considering how some foods are grown overseas and imported into the UK. Children will investigate food packaging and labels to identify where foods come from and then locate these countries on a world map. This will lead to discussions about **food miles** and the environmental impact of transporting food across the world.

As part of their practical skills development, children will learn how to safely **peel, slice and chop** a variety of seasonal ingredients. They will then apply these skills when following simple recipes to prepare dishes that can be shared and enjoyed with others.

Geography



In Geography, the children will be learning about rainforests, exploring where they are found around the world and why they are such important habitats. They will discover the different layers of the rainforest, learn about the plants and animals that live there, and investigate how living things are adapted to this unique environment. The children will also consider the importance of rainforests to our planet and discuss the impact of deforestation.

Music



This term, pupils will explore **salsa music**, learning about beat, clave rhythm, timbre, chords and rhythm patterns. They will compose and perform their own rhythms, sing call-and-response songs, play simple instrumental parts, and listen to Cuban music to recognise its key features and influences.

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PE

In PE, the children will be developing their skills in invasion games and dance. During invasion games lessons, they will learn how to work as part of a team, improve their passing and receiving skills, move into space, defend effectively and apply simple tactics during games. In dance, the children will explore movement, rhythm and expression, creating and performing sequences inspired by different themes. As part of the Year 3/4 curriculum, children will be expected to demonstrate coordination, control and balance, work collaboratively with others, evaluate and improve their performances, and show increasing confidence when performing individually and as part of a group. Through these activities, children will develop both their physical skills and their creativity.

Snow Leopards PE lessons are on Tuesday and Wednesdays.
Tigers' PE lessons are on Thursday and Friday.
Blue Whales' PE lessons are Tuesday and Friday.

Computing

This term in Computing, Year 3/4 will learn how sound is recorded and used digitally. They will explore the input and output devices needed to work with audio, discuss copyright and ownership of digital recordings, and use software to create their own podcast. Children will develop their editing skills by adding multiple tracks, saving and opening audio files, and will evaluate their finished work while giving constructive feedback to their classmates.

PSHE



This term, children explore different types of families and why they are important, learning how to manage disagreements calmly and solve problems together. They develop an understanding of what it means to be a witness to bullying and how their actions and words may help or harm others. Across the term, children practise using kind language, challenging stereotypes, and offering support to those who feel excluded. They learn how to give and receive compliments and reflect on how the words we choose affect feelings.

RE



This term, we will be exploring pilgrimage linked to Hinduism and wider world views. We will be questioning the experiences that a pilgrimage or a special experience can bring. We will be questioning people's sense of belonging.

Reminders

As a reminder, our school uniform for Key Stage 2 is a purple jumper or cardigan, white shirt or polo shirt with black/grey trousers/skirt and black shoes.

Children are expected to read at home **daily**. Reading records should be brought into school every day. These will be checked by an adult.

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Dojo points will be given for home learning. This includes Times Tables Rock Stars outside of school hours.

Homework projects are optional, but children will be given dojo points on completion of this homework.

Homework Project

- Research and write about an organism (animal or plant) that lives in the rainforest.
- Write a story about the life of a child surviving in the rainforest.
- Design and make a rainforest model (no bigger than A4).

- Research what is happening to the rainforest and how the habitats of many animals are being destroyed. Write a formal letter to the Government to persuade them to 'Save our Rainforests'
- Write a poem about the rainforest.

- Create 'Did you know?' fact cards about rainforests. Get the class to discover amazing facts!
- Using your knowledge of data handling, create charts and graphs to show data that interests you. This could be favourite rainforest animals, animals in the rainforest, rainfall for each month

- Compare the rainforest to another habitat, discussing the similarities and differences.
- Research about an endangered species from the rainforest and create a persuasive poster to save the animal.
- Draw a diagram of the structure of the rainforest. Label and describe the four layers.



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Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities



Times Tables Rockstars



Year group information

Tigers

Class Teachers: Mrs S Horry (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday) and Mr S Flint (Thursday and Friday)
Teaching Assistants: Miss G Miller

Snow Leopards

Class Teacher: Mrs M Dearman (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday) Miss J Simmonds (Wednesday)
Teaching Assistants: Miss J Haigh & Mrs H Hussain (AM)

Macaws

Class Teacher: Miss Gater
Teaching Assistants: Mrs Parish and Mrs North

Please remember to name your child's school jumper or cardigan and that Key Stage 2 uniform is black/grey trousers/skirt and white shirt/polo shirt

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.

Dates for the diary!

Term 2

Return for Term 2 – Monday 9th November 2026
Children In Need Day – Friday 13th November 2026
Y3/4 visit to Flag Fen – Wednesday 9th December 2026
Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 10th December 2026
Break up for Christmas – 18th December 2026

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Return for Term 3 – Tuesday 5th January 2027

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