



Year 3 Spring Term 2017

Oceans and Aliens

Guided reading:

Guided reading sessions will continue to take place 4 times a week, as well as five English lessons. During these sessions, children will take part in a rotation of activities. These include completing a comprehension task, reading for pleasure, focused reading with the class teacher and a follow up activity supported by an LSA based on the teacher led text.

Library

Children are allowed to take home their two library books and are expected to read daily for 10 minutes, recording their independent reading in their homework diary. Despite children being encouraged to read independently for enjoyment, it is also **essential at this stage that they read every night with an adult**. This is to provide them with support to correct their reading errors, improve their fluency and accuracy and allow questions to be asked of them to check their comprehension of what they are reading. This is even more essential for children on bands .

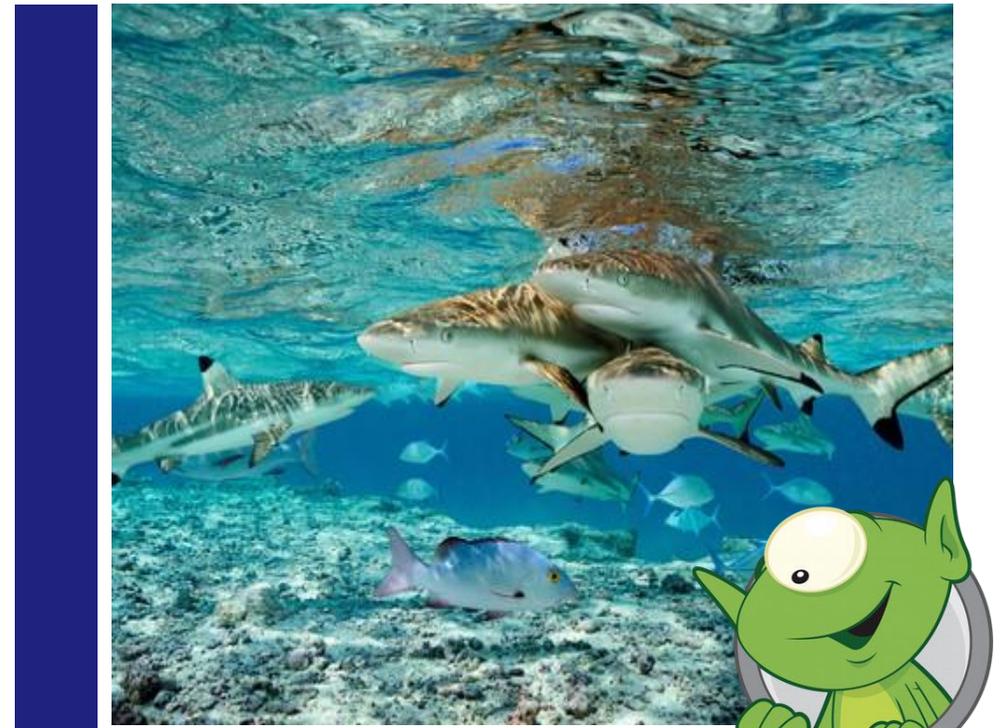
Phonics:

Children are regularly reassessed in their phonics groups and are moved fluidly between groups if necessary to suit their needs. Phonics still takes place 4 times a week in the morning for 25 minutes. Each phonics group has been and will continue to progress through the phases until all children reach phase 6. Phonics teachers may decide to provide activities to be completed at home for their phonics group however this will be at their own discretion.

Homework:

Pupils are expected to read regularly and to record their reading as detailed above. Spellings will be learnt as part of the children phonics teaching and through fast spelling initially. Fast spelling allows the children to practise rewriting their spellings in a given time to improve accuracy and speed. The spellings the children are learning each half term will be sent home with the half termly homework project.

Homework will be given in the form of a project each half term that is closely linked to, and enhances, what they are learning in school. Guidance will be issued to support the project and teachers are available to give advice when needed. If your child wishes to use the school computers, internet access and resources during their break times they are more than welcome. Please encourage them to ask their teacher if this is the case.



Welcome Back

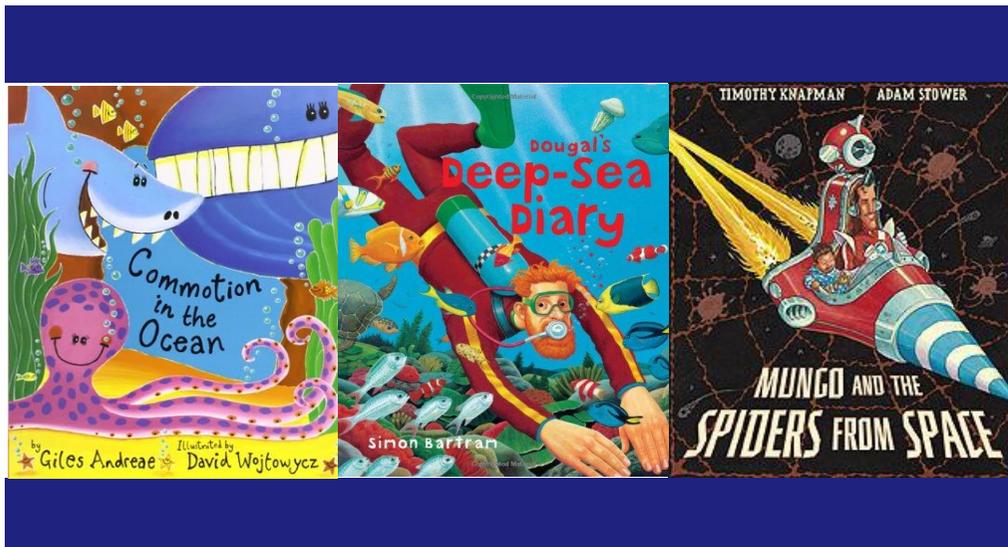
We hope you have all had a lovely Christmas and New Year and are ready for a busy Spring Term ahead.

This is a brief overview of some changes which will be happening to the curriculum this term and to inform you about what your child will be learning.

We would appreciate if you could take some time to read it.

YEAR 3 STAFF

Nightingales	Miss Meikle - Year Manager
Wrens	Mrs Timmins
Sparrows	Mrs Hunt
Robins	Mrs Williams
Blackbirds	Mr Dobson



Our new topics for the Spring Term are 'Oceans' followed by 'Aliens'. Here is a brief outline indicating what your son or daughter will be learning this term in the various subject areas.

English:

The term will kick off with our BIG WRITE which will have a focus on performance poetry. During the remainder of the term, English work will be directly related to our topics on Oceans and Aliens. This will involve shape poetry, non-chronological reports, comics and diary entries to name a few. All inspired by texts including Dougals Deep Sea Diary, Commotion in the Ocean, Mungo and the Space Spiders, Qpootle9 and Space Dog.

Spelling

* to learn the recommended spelling patterns in the National Curriculum for Year 3
These will be sent home each half term

Grammar

- * recognising and using different sentence types
- * recognising and using coordinating and subordinating conjunctions
- * recognising exclamations, questions, commands and using the appropriate punctuation

Mathematics:

Maths will now be moving to Singapore Maths this term which will involve a greater focus on the use of resources and developing children's mathematical thinking and reasoning skills. Children will be mainly learning about fractions and written methods for the four operations. 'Fast maths' will also happen 3 times a week, but outside of the maths lessons. This will focus on the children achieving mastery across some fundamentals including addition of two 1-digit numbers and times tables with the main aim being accuracy, followed by speed.

Please help your child by asking them to recite their times tables frequently in order and at random. This should include the associated division facts. Children will also be introduced to formal written methods for the four operations this term. As we teach these, support sheets will be provided for parents so you can practice with your child at home.

Topic Work:

This year our curriculum will be 'Topic' Based, enabling the children to make more meaningful links between their learning across different parts of the curriculum. Sometimes a topic will last all term, and others will form half or part of a term. This half term our focus is on 'Oceans'. Children have been shown a section of Planet Earth in order to get them engaged and inspired by the topic. They will be using 'Dougals Deep Sea Diary' as a literary focus. Following this the children will be beginning a topic on 'Aliens' after half term. For this topic, 'Space Dog' will be used as inspiration for the cross curricular teaching.

Games and P.E. will focus on Invasion games - netball and basketball

Core Learning - Being a good team member and how to work effectively as a team - the children's learning objective will be to work cooperatively within a group in a variety of roles. Swimming will be beginning on Thursday January 19th for Nightingales and Robins. Please ensure your child has returned their consent forms and has the appropriate swimming attire for the sessions as this is part of their curriculum. Should they not have proper attire, children will be expected to stay behind and work with another class.

PHSEE curriculum, this will be mainly embedded within other lessons and closely integrated with our core skills sessions.

Geography/History -

Where are the oceans and seas of the world?
Identifying different ocean habitats.
Man-made natural structures

Science: Rocks and soils, habitats, Light

ICT Importing images/presenting in pages, coding, comic life

ART - mixed media, wire modelling, shadow puppets