Highwood Primary School

Promoting Resilience - Achieving Potential

Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter- Autumn 1 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Highwood and we hope you have had a good summer break. We are delighted to share with you the content of the Year 3 curriculum for this half term. We hope that this gives you a window into your child's learning and enables you to have conversations with your child about what is happening in school.

We hope that you find this newsletter helpful. If you require further detail about what skills and knowledge will be taught in each subject, please have a look at the curriculum page on our school website. If you have any questions about our curriculum, or any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

On Wednesday 16th September at 08:55am - 09:25am, there will be a Welcome to Year 3 meeting with us, where further information will be given about Year 3. We look forward to seeing you then.

Many thanks,

Mrs Kamboz, Miss Muneer and Mrs Sheldon.

English





This half term the children will be reading these key texts:



They will be producing the following pieces of written work linked to the key texts:

A narrative and free verse poem to entertain.

The children will continue to use Spelling Shed this term to learn to spell the following:

- Words ending '-ful', '-less' and '-ly'
- Words that are homophones
- Words that are homophones or near homophones
- words ending –tion
- Words with apostrophes for contraction
- Words with apostrophes for possession
- Challenge words

Complete the activities using the link below-
www.spellingshed.com

Maths

- Place value and regrouping
- Counting on and back in ones, tens and hundreds
- Estimation, magnitude and rounding
- Measures – comparison, estimation and magnitude
- Mental fluency – addition
- Mental fluency – subtraction
- Fact families and applying the inverse
- Written addition working towards the compact column method

Science: Rocks, Fossils and Soils

Science: Light and Shadows

This half term, we will be learning about lights and shadows and how they affect our everyday life. We will classify light sources and non-light sources, investigate how shadows are formed and explain how light travels. We will also learn about sun-safety and investigate the best material for sunglasses using UV beads.

Reminders

PE lessons are on;

Maple: Monday & Tuesday (Forest School).

Cedar: Tuesday & Friday

Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE Kit. Also, long hair must be tied back, and no earrings should be worn on PE day.

Library – Tuesday (for both classes).
Reading books should be in school every day.

Home Learning

Home Learning books your children will bring these home on a Thursday – they need to be handed in on a Tuesday.

Please see home learning grid for further details.

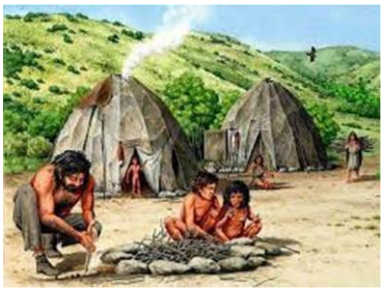
Daily Home Learning:

- Daily reading.
- Learn Spellings using Spelling Shed online. These will not be tested but used within their English writing.
- Daily times tables using Times Tables Rock Stars online.

History – The Stone Age

The children will be taught key knowledge and skills to help them answer our Big Question:

How is the Stone Age different to modern day?



The children will use primary and secondary sources to understand the day-to-day life during this period.

They will explore how the clothing, diet and homes of Stone Age people are different to modern day.

Art- cave paintings

Big Piece – Tonal Cave Drawings

In art, we will be learning about different sketching and shading techniques. The children will learn about and practise creating tones. They will do observational drawings of rocks and look at how artists have drawn them, before creating their own cave drawings.



P.E

This half term in PE, we will be focusing on dance and fundamental movement skills.

In dance, the children will be using a piece of music to create and link movements together in unison with a partner.

The children will also develop the fundamental skills of balancing, running, jumping, hopping and skipping. They will develop their ability to change direction with balance and control.

RE

Could Jesus heal people? Did he perform miracles or is there some other explanation?

This half term, we will be focusing on Christianity and miracles. The children will get an understanding of what a miracle is and how Jesus healed people.

P.S.H.E- 'Being me in my world'



This half term, the children will explore the rights and responsibilities that come with being a citizen. They will discuss the importance of democracy, relating this practically to our School Council.

The children will think about how they can use their own voice positively, whilst also participating in group decision making.

Computing

We will be learning about data handling and the use of graphing software to solve different mysteries in a unit of work called Story Graphs.

As part of our e-safety learning we will be focusing on what personal information we can and should not share online in relation to online gaming and chats.

Music

We will begin by practising songs for our Harvest Assembly and using vocal exercises to warm up our voices. Through this, we will explore the concepts of pitch structure. We will then look at Calypso music and its history; learning about timbre and playing the clave rhythm, using a variety of (body) percussions.

Spanish

The children will be introduced to the Spanish language and the fact that Spanish is spoken in Spain and elsewhere; they will also look at the diversity of other languages spoken within our class. They will begin to respond to and ask questions about names and ages and start to talk about family members in Spanish. They will also start to count in Spanish and recognise some letter names.