

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<p>Fiction: The King of the Fishes Your child will be learning to retell the story of 'The King of the Fishes'. This is an original story by Pie Corbett. It is designed to consolidate the children's knowledge of narrative structure (i.e. the ingredients that make up a story's opening, build-up, problem, resolution and ending). Further to that, we will be focusing on sentence structure and identifying the word class of words that make up a sentence (e.g. subject, verb, object, adverbs, fronted adverbials and conjunctions). The children will be exposed to writing descriptive passages using a variety of medias, such as video clips and pictures. This is to encourage the children to use a variety of carefully chosen adjectives in their sentences. In the model text, there is some evidence of relative clauses and the children will be exposed on how to use 'that' and 'who' to add more information to their sentences.</p> <p>Poetry: In the last two weeks of this half term, we will introduce the children to various forms of poetry. The children will read, analyse, discuss and create different types of poems. They will also learn and recite a poem by heart by using intonation, tone and volume, ready to perform to an audience.</p>
	<p>Start a glossary of interesting words and phrases you find. Why not start a 'magpie book' or use Floreat's Reading Record to store new and interesting words that the children like so that they can use them again later? Encourage your children to steal vocabulary that interests them!</p>
	<p>Nelson Handwriting Your child will continue to write with their 'Perfect Pencil Grip' and 'Posture for Writing'. All Year 3 children have been practising their joined-up Nelson handwriting for over a year and have made great progress.</p> <p>Also, those children who have shown real progress with handwriting will be introduced to writing in exercise books without tramlines.</p> <p>You can support your child by ensuring that they sit properly on their chair with their feet on the floor, facing the table with a pencil in their writing hand and their other hand on their work. Please ensure that your child completes their home learning in joined up writing and with a sharp pencil.</p>
Reading	<p>Sounds-Write (Phonics) We will continue consolidating the children's knowledge of the English phonetic code and using this to support both their reading and spelling of polysyllabic words (e.g., utt/er/ing).</p>
	<p>Whole Class Reading This term your child will be reading a range of texts which will support the learning that the children will be completing in English. The texts will be used to develop the children's vocabulary; abilities to infer, predict and explain; and the skills of sequencing and summarising a text. Our main text for this half term is a fiction book called 'The Accidental Prime Minister' by Tom McLaughlin.</p> <p>As well, this will be an opportunity for the children to develop their confident reading voices. We are hoping to develop their ability to express and use intonation appropriately.</p>
	<p>While reading fiction with your child, really question them about the author's use of speech. Ask questions like, "Is there a new paragraph when there's a new speaker?" and "Look at what Character B said. How are they feeling? How do you know?"</p> <p>Read with your child as often as possible! And, crucially, <i>re-read</i> with them. If your child has read a text out loud to you, ask them to re-read it once they have gone through the decoding stage. This will help comprehension. Finally, read it <i>to</i> them. This models intonation and expression when they re-read it for a final time.</p> <p>Ask your child to summarise what they are reading. Challenge them to create summaries of a section of text with fewer than ten words.</p>
Mathematics	<p>This half term, your child will be continuing to study fractions by focusing on identifying, representing and comparing unit fractions before moving onto finding a unit fraction of a quantity. They will then learn about non-unit fractions, again identifying, representing and comparing these. Toward the end of the term, our focus will be on applying this knowledge to successfully add and subtract within one whole.</p>

	<p>You can support by continuing to practise number bond fluency and drawing children's attention to making number bonds within numbers to support addition. (For example: 4+ + 6) Please also practise the all of the times tables at home starting from anywhere in the middle, not just 0! Please also encourage your child to tell the time throughout the day (using both analogue and digital clocks).</p> <p>Please also ensure that children are confident in their 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 times tables. If they are confident in these, please practise the 11 and 12 times tables. We would love to see as many children as possible aim to work towards their 14+ Badge this half term.</p>
Knowledge	<p>Science – We will be learning about rocks. This will be completed through learning about how we categorise rocks, how they are formed, and their permeability. The children will be observing and assessing a variety of rocks to examine their properties.</p> <p>History – This half term, your child will be learning about Law and Power, specifically the Crusades and Magna Carta as well as studying figures such as Henry II, Thomas Beckett and Richard the Lionheart.</p> <p>Geography – Your child will learn all about the countries of Western Europe, including their culture, climate and economies. There will be a particular focus on France, including a week comparing Paris with London.</p>
	<p>You can support your child at home by questioning them about the areas we are studying this half-term and encouraging them to read widely around them too. Any additional knowledge that your child brings to the classroom will be duly celebrated!</p>
Character	<p>Your child is learning about Optimism and Joy; Creativity; and Humility. Whilst looking at these virtues we will explore real life contexts that the children might find themselves in and how we could approach these situations. These virtues will be embedded through discussion and stories as well as activities rooted in reality that will bring the learning to life! This half term we will also be learning about the life and work of Michelle Obama.</p>
	<p>In terms of developing your child's character, really question them. For example, this half-term, challenge your child's judgements – make them reason as to why they make the judgements they do and help to illuminate different perspectives.</p>
Music	<p>Your child is learning to play either the violin or the viola. As I am sure you are aware, the children are becoming more confident with their instruments and reading music. This will continue.</p>
	<p>You can support your child by encouraging them to practice little and often. The music tutors recommend 10 minutes per day.</p>
P.E.	<p>This half term, Year 3 children will be focusing on Athletics during PE in preparation for their Sports Day. These events are Long Jump, Triple Jump, High Jump, Javelin, Discus, Running Races and an Obstacle Course. They will build upon their learning last year to further refine their skills.</p>
	<p>Please ensure your child comes into school wearing their full P.E. kit on Mondays.</p>