

**3SM:** Mr Millard (Year Leader) 3AB Mrs Adams and Ms Benstead, **3AS:** Miss Stock,  
**LSAs:** Mrs Hall, Mrs Ruth and Miss Berry

Happy New Year! We hope everyone has had a relaxing and enjoyable break. Thank you so much to everyone who has passed on their Christmas wishes, cards and gifts, they were all very gratefully received. Hopefully the picture frames that the children worked so hard on in D.T. made their way safely to their recipients. We were so proud of what the children achieved and there was much excitement about who was going to receive the handmade gifts. We will be continuing to encourage all of the children to read as much as possible and have really enjoyed seeing the photographs of children getting caught reading! Our daily ERIC (everyone reading in class) time after lunch will continue throughout the year. Please ensure that you hear your child read and discuss their books and record this in their home/link book in order for them to earn maximum reading dojos. There will continue to be Times Tables Rock Stars Battles over the term too. We have an exciting term of learning ahead of us and look forward to sharing the children's achievements with you.

### Main topics and learning this half term:

Science

Geography

English



This half term our main topic area will be Maptastic Britain. This topic will begin with us using our curiosity to think about UK geography. We will be exploring our country and learning all about the different human and physical characteristics of it. We will also be naming and locating major cities and counties within the UK. There will be lots of opportunities for practical learning throughout the topic and it would be fantastic if you could explore some maps at home too.

In Science this half term we will be using our curiosity to investigate magnets. We will be learning about what they do and how we can use them for different purposes. There will be lots of opportunities for the children to develop their own scientific questions, make predictions and design and carry out experiments to explore their understanding.

We have just completed a short poetry unit based on The Magic Box. The children have shown great creativity in writing their own magic box poems, choosing what they would find inside. Our next unit uses the book Elf Road and it will help the children to focus on creating fantastic settings for stories. Alongside this we will be studying Narnia by C.S Lewis' in Guided Reading.

In Maths we are beginning the term with a focus on 'Multiplication and Division'. We will be developing our understanding of a range of practical, drawn and more formally written methods. Times table knowledge is really key to this learning and enables quicker and more efficient methods to be used. After this unit we will be moving on to look at 'Length and Perimeter' and then 'Fractions'.

### How you can support your child's learning at home:

- Reading is fundamental to your child's further learning so please listen to your child read and discuss the texts they are reading on a regular basis regardless of their ability.
- Constant revision of multiplication and division facts will always be useful and will prepare them for the National Times Table check in Year 4. This half term we are focussing on **2, 5, 10 and 4 x tables**. Please make sure that your child is making use of their Times Tables Rock Stars log in. There are certificates each week for the children to try and earn.

### Homework

Homework takes the form of learning conversations. You will find a topic of conversation related to your child's learning in their home-link book for each day of the week. We would love to hear how your conversations have gone so please make a note in the comments section in the home-link book. Spellings and times tables are sent home each week in this book too.

### A few reminders:

- **PE will take place on Monday and Friday morning.** Please ensure your child wears their PE kit to school on these days, preferably leaving all watches and earrings at home on these days.
- **Our School Library time is on a Thursday afternoon.** This is the children's chance to change their library books so please help us by reminding the children to bring their books back. If they have finished their reading book before their designated library time, please let us know and we can arrange for them to exchange it for a new one.
- Spellings are tested on Fridays and new spellings are given out on the Friday too. Times tables are tested on a Thursday.