



Handale Primary School
West Park Avenue
Loftus
TS13 4RL
Tel: 01287 640416
Headteacher: Mrs H. Blakeley



Friday 6th September 2019

Year 3 Newsletter Autumn Term 2019

Dear Parent,

Welcome back to the new school year, we hope that you have had a brilliant and relaxing summer break and your children are looking forward to a new school year, ready to learn. Autumn Term has lots to offer and we are more than certain your child will shine during Year 3.

It will no doubt be a busy term, as always, so we would like to share a couple of key dates with you now:

- Friday 25th October– Last day of the half term
- Monday 4th November – Return to school
- Friday 20th December - End of term

Autumn Term Topics

Topic work this term will focus on the question ‘Who Were the First Humans?’ where we will be finding out about changes in Britain from the Stone Age through to the Iron Age. In English we will be learning to write non - chronological reports and later in the term we will be using *The Journey* by Aaron Becker as inspiration for our own adventure stories. Our science work will involve progressing the children’s knowledge of plants and we will be linking this to our work on hunter-gatherers and farming. In DT, we will be planning, making and evaluating a Stone Age meal and later in the term we will be taking our inspiration from the invention of the wheel.

The children will also be extending their skills and knowledge in RE, geography, PSHE, art, music and will even be managing to fit in French lessons, which they are all eagerly looking forward to. In PE this term, the children will have a lesson with MFC on a Tuesday and also a session on a Friday afternoon. Please make sure your child has their PE kits in school on both of these days. It might be advisable to bring it to school on a Monday and leave it at school for the week, so that you are sure they have their kit when needed. (PE kit is plain black shorts, plain white t-shirt and trainers/plimsoles)

Reading at home and in school

Reading is a fundamental life skill and something we are passionate about at Handale. It is essential that pupils read at home to an adult at least three times a week and have their reading record signed accordingly. Children will also read weekly to adults in school, both in group sessions and individually. Children are able to change their books independently whenever they are ready and will also have the opportunity to bring home a library book. When children read three times per week, they will move along their class’ ‘Read For The Stars’ chart and make their way towards the Autumn Term reading party. Last year’s reading parties were a huge success so get those weekly reads in!





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Spelling

Spelling is a big focus throughout the school and your child will be tested on their weekly spellings every Friday. They will receive their spellings every week and we ask that you help us by discussing spellings with your children and allowing them time on a night to practise them. They will also be learning them daily in school.

School Trips

We are currently organising the residential visit to Ford Castle, due to take place in March 2020 and many of you have already expressed an interest. We are really excited about this and further information will follow shortly. In addition to a trip out, we are in the process of booking our Loftus Library trips again, which take place during the school day.

Homework

Homework in the Autumn Term will involve children learning their spellings, in preparation for their weekly test on a Friday morning and completing their reading practice three times per week. In addition to this, pupils will receive a piece of Maths times tables homework weekly. We are conscious that we do not wish to overburden our pupils but know that many of you enjoy completing extra activities with your children and we would encourage you to continue to do so – please also feel free to carry out your own research about your child's topic if you would like. Something like a piece of artwork or a game is always great to share with the class and can add valuable contributions to our curriculum.

School Bags

We would just like to remind you that children are no longer allowed to bring large bags to school. A small drawstring bag is required for PE and book bags are also allowed to store reading books and letters in. Please note that we do have PE bags and book bags available from the office. If you have any questions, please feel free to come into school and discuss them. Here's to another great term,

Thank you,

Mr Ledger, Mrs Porter and Mrs Brodie

