

# Four Lanes Community Junior School

Year 3 Curriculum News

Autumn 1 2015



**3W:** Mrs Whiteford (Team Leader), **3H:** Miss Hodge, **3T:** Ms Turner **LSAs:** Mrs Olliver & Mrs Buchanan

The Year 3 team would like to offer a very warm welcome to all the Year 3 children and parents. We hope you have had a good summer holiday and feel refreshed and ready for an exciting year. Thank you for returning such wonderful postcards; the children were excited to see that they had arrived and were displayed in the classrooms.

The children have settled in incredibly well and are already working hard. During this first half term there are several opportunities for you to learn more about what your child is up to in Year 3: we will have a trip around our Local Woodlands soon and will need volunteers to join us. We have also invited parents to come into Year 3 classrooms and see what the children have been learning in their first few weeks. Please put the dates in your diary - more information will follow in the next few weeks.

## Main topics and learning this half term:

New beginnings

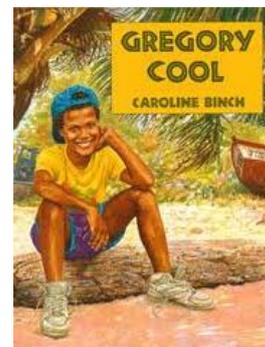
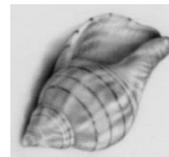
WOODLANDS

Plants

During the first three weeks of the term we will be getting to know the children by doing a mini topic centred on New Beginnings. We will base a lot of our work on the book Gregory Cool and will also be learning how to make detailed observational sketches, learning how to understand and share our feelings about new starts and explore our understanding of friendship.

**This half term our main topic area is Woodlands** – an exciting Geography topic where the children will be learning about:

- Our local Woodland area and being Woodland Detectives
- Ancient Woodlands
- Woodland habitats and animal life



Our Woodlands topic will **link to lots of other aspects of the curriculum:**

- In Art we are developing basic drawing skills through observational sketching of plants
- In Science we will investigate healthy growth in plants
- In English we will write non-chronological reports about our woodlands
- In Maths we will use our measuring skills to learn more about trees and use data handling to present our findings.

Our Woodlands topic will continue after half term but our focus changes to a study of local area development. In art we will be studying the work of artist Andy Goldsworthy and towards the end of the term. Parents will be invited to join a special woodland art event to see what we can create in our school grounds.

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

- Learn times tables – there are lots of resources in shops to help eg. Times tables CDs.
- Practise typing skills using the games on the website [www.sense-lang.org/typing](http://www.sense-lang.org/typing)
- Practise observational drawing at home
- Visit a local woodland for a walk and spot different tree types or search for minibeasts
- Borrow books from the library about plants, British wildlife and woodlands around the world
- English, Maths, Science or Topic homework is set every Friday and is due in the following Wednesday.

### Dates for your diary:

**Tuesday 22nd September** – Meet the teacher. Please join us from 2:45pm onwards. This is an informal session where you can pop in and chat about how your child has settled in. No appointments are necessary. Mrs Whiteford will also explain our Year 3 expectations.

Parent helpers required please for our local woodland walk – **Wednesday 23rd September**, leaving school at 9:30, returning at approximately 11:00am. Further details will follow next week.

- If you would like to be a regular parent helper please speak to your child's class teacher as we are always keen for helpers to hear readers or support with art activities etc.