

Four Lanes Community Junior School

Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter Spring 1 2016



3W: Mrs Whiteford 3H Miss Hodge 3T Mrs Turner LSAs: Mrs Olliver and Mrs Buchanan

The Year 3 team would like to say how well the children have settled into the new term and to thank all parents for their continued help and support.

The first week has been action-packed with the start of several new topics, including our new History topic on the Celts. Both staff and children are thoroughly looking forward to our visit to Butser Ancient Farm on Wednesday 20th January. If you have not yet returned the permission slip for your child, please do so as soon as possible. It will be an amazing experience!

We will be working extremely hard (as always) to learn as much about our new topics as we can. The children may ask to undertake extra research using the internet and may also ask you to take them to visit your local library for extra resources.

Please may we take this opportunity to remind you that children need to bring their school reading book in their book bags every day. On Tuesdays, each Year 3 class has a dedicated time in the school library when their class teachers are able to help them select appropriate books. Children may of course choose and change their books in our early morning sessions too.

Main topics and learning this half term:

Going For Goals

Chaotic Celts!

Magnets

The PSHEE topic is titled *Going for Goals*. We will be exploring personal and educational achievements and finding out what it takes to improve and aim for something higher, whether it be the next level swimming certificate or improvement in reading. We will also be learning about how magnets are used in everyday life and will be undertaking a number of experiments in our Science lessons over the next few weeks.

This half term our main topic area is Chaotic Celts - an exciting History topic where the children will be learning about:

- The lives of Invaders and Settlers in The Iron and Bronze Ages. We have already had an exciting Launch day using two huge trunks of artefacts from Hampshire Wardrobe to investigate and learn about The Celts and Romans.

Our Chaotic Celts topic will link to lots of other aspects of the curriculum:

- We are studying a book by Terry Deary (author of *Horrible Histories*) called *The Captive Celt* to help us learn about narrative writing.
- We are learning about the properties of magnets and magnetic materials in Science.
- We will be writing non-chronological reports about life as a Celt and persuasive writing about Butser Ancient Farm.
- In D.T we will make Celtic purses
- In maths our number skills and use of timelines will help us to put historical periods in context.

Please see the curriculum overview on the website to see what we are learning in the other subjects.

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

- Practise typing skills using the games on the website www.sense-lang.org/typing
- Use the internet's Maths Zones to investigate number games including *My Maths*
- Practise times tables and play tables games
- Learn more about magnets and how they can be found in everyday objects around the home
- Borrow books from the library about The Celts and Romans

Dates for your diary:

Homework Project:

Our next project will be set after half term and will be a hands-on Roman creation!

This term maths and English tasks will be set on alternate weeks.

End of unit outcome:

We are pleased to announce that Year 3 will be hosting a Celtic/Roman Workshop on Monday 21st March in our school hall. You will personally be invited to join us to sample a variety of activities which will enable the children to demonstrate their many skills. How very exciting!

- 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.