

# Four Lanes Community Junior School

Year 3 Curriculum News

Autumn 1 2016



**3T:** Ms Turner, **3H:** Miss Hodge **3K:** Mrs Kasparian

**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 they are 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 also invite parents to come into Year 3 classrooms and help their children set some achievable targets for their first term and we look forward to seeing you all!

## 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 *A Tale of Two Beasts* and will also be learning how to make detailed observational sketches, 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 studying the natural artist Andy Goldsworthy
- In indoor PE we will use the fundamentals
- In Science we will investigate healthy growth in plants
- In English we will write woodland poetry, non-chronological reports about the woodland, recounts and persuasive writing.
- In Maths we will use our measuring skills to learn more about trees and data handling to present our findings. We will also be making sure children are really confident with the four rules of number.

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

- Learn times tables – there are lots of resources in shops to help e.g. Times tables CDs.
- Practise typing skill.
- Practise observational drawing at home
- Visit a local woodland for a walk and spot different tree types or search for mini beasts
- Learn more about the artist Andy Goldsworthy
- 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:

- Thursday 22nd September – Meet the Team and the Teacher - Please join us from 2:45pm onwards so we can share with you our expectations for the year ahead and for you to help your child set themselves some achievable targets.
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 2:30 –Y3 Topic Outcome – come and join your child in some engaging and rewarding activities.
- Local Woodland visit – (more details to follow).

- 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 and especially to support us with trips and outings etc.
- PE will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays this term. Please ensure your child's PE kit is in school on these days. However it is always useful for their kit to be in everyday of the week; - just in case.