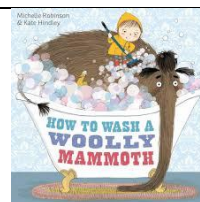


Our topic for this half term is:

Stone Age to Iron Age

Autumn A Writing



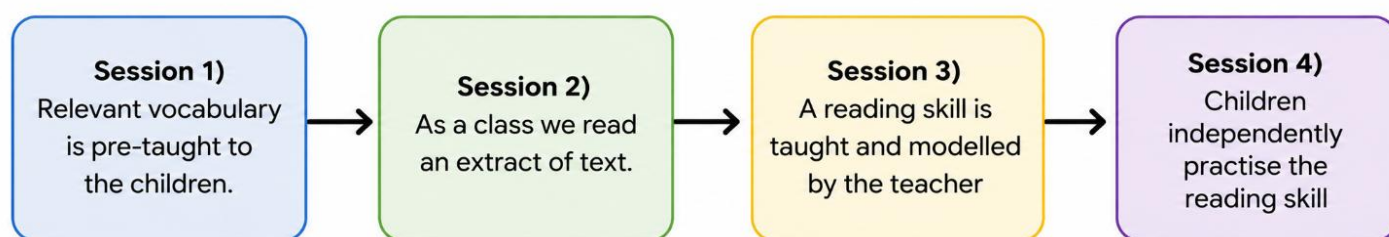
We will start the year by reading *Tin Forest* by the author Helen Ward. The children will explore the story and create their own setting descriptions of the forest. We will then be writing instructions linked to the book *How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth* by Michelle Robinson and writing a non-chronological report about the Celts in ancient Britain.

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

During the first half term we will revise our understanding of nouns, verbs and adjectives and will focus on writing simple, coherent sentences with a range of punctuation. We will be revisiting simple conjunctions, learned during Year 2, and begin to look at more advanced sentence structures with a focus on varying sentence openers. Children will learn a variety of prepositions to include in their writing. A separate spelling sheet will soon be sent home with the words and rules covered for the half term. Spellings will be set on a Monday and tested the following Monday.

Guided Reading

Now that they are in Key Stage 2, the majority of children will move to 'whole class guided reading'. This is taught over four sessions as follows:



Each week we focus on a different reading skill:



Children also have opportunity to visit the school library regularly. They also read to an adult in school on a 1:1 basis each fortnight. We also have regular story times throughout the week.

Mathematics

In Maths, we will continue to recap and explore place value, representing and partitioning numbers to 1,000, estimating numbers on a number line, counting in 50s, comparing and ordering numbers. We will then move on to addition and subtraction, where children will learn about number pairs that total 100 and inverse operations then more formal adding and subtracting - with and without exchanging.

Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs)

Each half term we focus on a different set of *Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs)* in maths. These are facts that children need to be able to recall quickly and accurately to support their learning in all areas of maths.

For **Autumn A**, our KIRF is **number bonds for each number up to 20**. Number bonds are pairs of numbers that add together to make a given total. For example:

- For the number **10**: $1 + 9$, $2 + 8$, $3 + 7$, $4 + 6$, $5 + 5$
- For the number **15**: $7 + 8$, $6 + 9$, $10 + 5$
- For the number **20**: $12 + 8$, $15 + 5$, $19 + 1$

Being able to recall these quickly helps children with addition, subtraction, problem-solving and later with multiplication and division.

You can help at home by:

- Playing quick-fire games: *"What goes with 6 to make 14?"*
- Using number cards or dominoes to make pairs.
- Spotting number bonds in everyday life: *"We've got 7 apples—how many more do we need to make 10?"*

The aim is for children to know these facts instantly, without needing to count on their fingers.

Science

We will be exploring 'Forces and Magnets'. We will investigate the following areas: Compare how things move on different surfaces, observe how magnets attract and repel each other and attract some materials and not others and describe magnets as having two poles.

Foundation Subjects

HISTORY – The big question for our History enquiry unit is 'Would you prefer to have lived in the Stone Age, Bronze Age or Iron Age?' Looking at the chronology of mankind, children are introduced to Britain's story. They use archaeological evidence to find out about the Stone Age, Bronze and Iron Age and how life changed in Britain throughout these ages. Later in the half term, we will have a prehistoric visitor coming into school to support our learning.

ART – The children will work through the unit 'Gestural drawing with charcoal'. After being introduced to the work of two artists who use charcoal, they will discover for themselves how to make large-scale drawings that capture a sense of drama or performance using charcoal. This links nicely with early man's cave paintings.

RSHE – We will be covering transition, rights and responsibilities, families and people who care for me and first aid.

COMPUTING – During Autumn A, children will explore computing systems and networks – connecting computers where children will develop their understanding of digital devices, with an initial focus on inputs, processes, and outputs. We will also spend some time revising keyboard layout and key functions.

PE: In this unit the children will develop the fundamental skills of balancing, running, jumping, hopping and skipping. They will develop their ability to change direction with balance and control. They will be given the opportunity to explore how the body moves at different speeds as well as how to speed up and slow down. For the second unit the children will explore tennis as a net and wall game. In this unit pupils develop their understanding of the principals of net and wall games. In all games pupils think about how they use skills, strategies and tactics to outwit the opposition. They will learn key skills such as racket control, hitting a ball and how to score points.

MUSIC – This half term the children will be introduced to the recorder instrument and learn how to hold their recorder correctly, covering the finger holes accurately to create a good sound. They will begin to follow notation correctly and read this accurately on a staff. They will learn and perform pieces of music from the Red-Hot recorder book. The children will learn to play the first two notes accurately B and A and practise rhythm patterns from set three. Lastly, they will listen to and appraise music from different composers, artists and singers.

RE – In the first half term, we will be learning about what spirituality means to different groups of people through the medium of art, music, dance, drama.

Reading and Homework

We ask that reading packs are kept in school bags every day so that they are accessible for both home and school. If books need changing, then this can be done on a TUESDAY and FRIDAY, however we encourage children to read their book several times - to develop their fluency and understanding. Please make a note in your child's reading record when you have read with them, and we will endeavour to do the same. We want to encourage a love of reading so if you are looking for book recommendations a good site to visit is

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks2-school-pupils/year-3/>

New spellings are taught to the children on Mondays and tested the following Monday. We would encourage children to practise their spellings on Spelling Shed frequently for homework. A paper copy of all the half term spellings will be sent home during week 2. We keep spelling books in school but if you would like to know your child's spelling score, please simply email us.

Please encourage your child to rehearse their times tables for their weekly homework on Times Table Rockstars www.ttrockstars.com. We focus on just the 3, 4 and 8 times tables in Year 3.

Please label every item of uniform with your child's name! It makes returning lost items so much easier!

Kit reminder: Please ensure your child has the correct labelled PE kit to be kept in school every day. They should have an indoor kit (t-shirt, shorts and pumps) as well as an outdoor kit (black joggers, black hoodie). Trainers are needed for outdoor PE for safety reasons. PE kits will be sent home at the end of each half term to be washed. Tape for earrings and hair bobbles are required as part of our health and safety policy.



Contact Details

Please contact us if you have any questions or require any further support.

Mrs Hunt and Miss Sellens
3HS@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

Mr Middleton
3M@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

Mrs Goczan
3G@moorlandsprimary.org.uk

Dates in the diary

Tuesday 29th September OPAL Play assembly and open morning for parents

Thursday 1st October School Photos

Monday 5th October Flu Immunisations

Thursday 8th October- Stone Age to Iron Age History workshop in school

Thursday 15th October 5pm – PTA disco

Wednesday 21st October- finish for half term holidays

Please do keep an eye on the weekly school newsletter for any changes to dates.

Please note that emails to teachers may not be seen the same day; please contact the School Office on 01484 655800 or office@moorlandsprimary.org.uk if your query is more urgent. Always contact the office to report absence/appointments.

