Headteacher: Mr A Smith
B.Ed. (Hons); NPQH PGCertSENCo

'Aim high, prepare to achieve'

Bishopton Primary School
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Year 3/4 Autumn Term 2026

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 3/4. We hope you have all had an enjoyable Summer break and are looking forward to the Autumn Term. This letter provides a summary of what your child will be learning this term.

One of the main focuses for this academic year, throughout the school, is reading. Reading is to be at the heart of all learning and, as always, we encourage you to get involved with your children's reading by sharing and discussing their latest book. Just because a child is a fluent, independent reader, it does not mean they no longer need the valuable book talk which is so important that parents support their children with. To master the necessary skills, the children in Year 3 and 4 should be doing supervised reading at home for 20 minutes at least three times a week. Every child will have a reading book which will be checked/changed twice a week. At school, we will continue to teach reading skills in class. Can you please ensure your child brings their reading book and diary into school every day?

Our literacy lessons will be based on a variety of engaging and imaginative text including "Leon and the Place Between" and "The Mermaid of Zennor". Throughout the term, the main writing outcomes will be to write their own fantasy narrative, a legend, create a brochure and a motivational leaflet about future dreams and aspirations. Weekly spelling lessons and tests will take place every Monday and the spellings will be emailed home. Please share the words with your child and help them to learn to spell them. We will also be dedicating time daily to practice handwriting as presentation of work across the curriculum is a strong focus this year.

In mathematics this term, we will continue to use Power Maths scheme which develops mastery in maths. During the first term of year 3, pupils will understand place value to three digits so they can solve problems involving these concepts. We will consolidate our understanding of mental strategies to solve addition and subtraction of numbers before we learn the formal methods of column addition and subtraction. Finally, we will recall and use our multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 times tables to solve missing number problems. Year 4 will explore 4-digit numbers followed by addition and subtraction. Later in the term, our focus will be on measurement and finally multiplication and division. Children will continue to work on their fluency through daily Fluency Bee activities. We will focus on mathematical reasoning skills throughout the term. We will teach stand-alone arithmetic lessons every Friday. You can help your child with their maths fluency by ensuring they can recall quickly the above times tables, their number bonds to 10, 20 and 100 and are able to add mentally tens or hundreds to any number. As part of your child's home learning, they will also be given a login to Times Tables Rock Stars and NumBots. This will form part of their expected homework as well as their maths homework book, which will go home every Friday.

In Year 3 science, the children will be taught about the importance of what they eat to fuel their bodies. They will study the key food groups and the functions these provide for their health. They will investigate the different muscles and bones in their body. After half term, the children will learn about forces and how friction affects the movement of objects over different surfaces. We will explore magnets and group materials based on their magnetic qualities.

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For Year 4, we will begin with animals including humans where the focus will be on food and digestion considering how humans and other animals digest food, use nutrients for energy, and how different organisms have different diets. Children will also develop their knowledge of food chains. After half term, children will learn about electricity. They will identify which appliances use electricity in their homes and how to keep themselves safe. Children will construct circuits, start to create pictorial circuits, and conduct investigations.

Our first topic this half term is 'Predator!'. Pupils will learn about food chains and how predators on the land, in the sea and in the air have adapted to catch their prey. We will also learn about prehistoric predators, the importance of skeletons, and try to use the knowledge gained to decide which predator is the most successful at catching prey.

In the second half term our topic is 'Invaders and Settlers'. The pupils will learn about how life changed for people living in Britain after the invasion of the Anglo Saxons. They will study burial sites such as Sutton Hoo to discover more about Anglo Saxon culture and crafts.

In R.E., we will first explore the beliefs of the Sanatani and the importance of pilgrimage to the River Ganges. In addition to this we will be exploring how History and Religion have entwined in our local area.

In PSHE we will continue to follow our Jigsaw scheme, Being Me in My World and Celebrating Differences.

What you need to remember for each day in Year 3/4:
Monday: PE for 3/4A and 3/4BH, spelling test and new spellings taught, reading books
Tuesday: reading books
Wednesday: reading books
Thursday: PE for 3/4C, reading books, maths homework due in
Friday: reading books, maths homework out

Please support your child with learning weekly spellings emailed, supervised reading at least 3 times a week for 20 minutes, maths Practice Journals completed weekly to consolidate learning in school and TTRS and their half-termly creative Topic Project.

Information regarding parents' evenings this term, including dates, will be released in due course.
If you have any immediate concerns or issues that you need to discuss, then please contact us via Year34A@welearn365.com (Miss Allard), Year34BH@welearn365.com (Mrs Bunt/Mrs Healey) or Year3C@welearn365.com (Mrs Clarke)
We look forward to a successful and happy year ahead of us.
Thank you for your support.
Miss Allard, Mrs Bunt, Mrs Clarke and Mrs Healey