Camp Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 5PG Tel: 01727 851056 Email: admin@camp.herts.sch.uk www.camp.herts.sch.uk

**Yellow Class – Spring Term Newsletter 2026**

Dear Year Three Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new term and the New Year! A huge thank you to all of you for the generous and kind gifts we received from you all last term. We really appreciate it.
It has been lovely to have the children back at school. They have all settled down well and we can see that they are eager to learn again and take on new challenges. We have a busy term ahead, so here is some key information about the learning topics we have to look forward to.

**Curriculum focus**
This term, we are going to cover a number of topics linked to our learning in history and geography. Our topic will be focussing on the end of the Bronze Age and then finishing with the Iron Age. In Geography, we will learn about rivers. Under this topic we will first look at the United Kingdom's main cities, counties, seas, rivers and mountains. We will look at how rivers are formed, their journey and how this shapes our landscape. We will learn why rivers are important to us and what happens when they flood. We will start to learn about the River Nile - its location and the importance of it in modern day and ancient life in Egypt, leading us into our topic next term on the Ancient Egyptians. If you have any resources or books that can support the children's learning, please do let us know.

Linked to our Stone Age to Iron age topic we have organised an exciting trip on **Wednesday 4th March 2025 to the Chiltern Open Air Museum**. More information will be sent out about the cost and travel soon.

**Maths**
We will spend the first few weeks on times tables as this is so important for supporting other learning later in the year. Other key areas for Year 3 in the Spring term are multiplication and division, statistics, pictograms, time and formal written multiplication. It would be good if you could keep on revising number bonds to 20 with children and keep on practising times tables on the **'Times tables Rock stars'** resource we have.

**Reading**
In terms of reading, all children are expected to bring to school with them their reading books and reading records every day and should be reading at home to an adult or sibling regularly - even those who are a 'free reader'. Sharing stories together at this age is crucial and such an important part of their reading journey. As the children start to become more confident decoders and begin to read more adventurous and longer texts independently, they can become tired and sometimes disengaged. Reading together - you to them and them to you, is really important and keeps the flow of the book going, ensuring comprehension and enjoyment. Reading records should be filled in when reading at home. We will endeavour to check these as much as we can but please do not leave urgent messages here as they are not checked every day. We will continue whole class guided reading every week, which will focus largely on comprehension and language, along with individual reading where we can monitor the children's progress. After finishing 'The boy who grew dragons' by Andy Shepherd we will be reading 'Fantastic Mr. Fox' by Roald Dahl and then move on to exploring other **Roald Dahl texts**.

We have **library** time on a **Thursday**. Please let us know if your child is finding it hard to know what to read as we can use our library times to find suitable books for children.

**English**

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This term we will write our own **non-chronological report** by looking at the text 'Incredible Jobs You've (Probably) Never Heard Of', by Natalie Labarre. We will learn to use captions and labels to add information to illustrations. We will learn how to use the Index page to guide readers to know how to find something specific they might be looking for as well as the Glossary to provide definitions in a quick and easy guide for the reader. We will also learn about writing our own **persuasive speeches** by looking at the text: Stella and the Seagull, by Georgiana Stevens. We will use first, second and third person narrative, to address the audience directly and refer to ourselves as the speaker. We will learn how to switch between the past, present and future tenses in our writing. In Poetry, we will learn how to write **calligrams** by looking at the poem 'Love that Dog', by Sharon Creech.

**PE**

PE this term we will be on a **Tuesday and Friday**. The days for PE lessons this term may occasionally change so it is important that the children have a **full** PE kit with them every day, including a long sleeved top and trainers for outdoor PE work. Children with long hair must remember to bring a hair tie. Simple stud earrings are allowed but not on PE days. During the school day, the children will also be completing the Daily Mile on the school's running track (3 laps of running track for year 3). Children also need to bring in their water bottles daily.

**Homework**

In line with our homework policy, home learning will focus on reading, spelling and maths skills. Children need to read daily and are expected to do 40 minutes of homework each week. Children will be able to also practise their times tables by accessing the Times Tables Rockstars programme daily. Try to do at least ten minutes a day, if possible. Please let us know if your child needs their username and password for this. Occasionally, other pieces of homework may be set, linked to a topic that we are studying. Please encourage your child to complete their homework to the best of their ability and to return it by Thursday. Homework will be handed out on a Friday.

**Toast and snacks**

Children can choose to have toast (payable via Arbor) which will be provided on Fridays at break time. They are also allowed to bring in their own healthy snack e.g. a piece of fruit or cereal bar. Please be aware of our **no nuts and no sesame policy** as we have children with severe allergies. Please check the labels of products carefully.

Our **class assembly** is on **Thursday 22nd January**. We do hope you will be able to come and watch.

As always, we will ensure to support all children's individual needs in a variety of ways. Additional support, individualised learning and intervention will continue in class. We will share any further information if necessary with parents in due course. I hope that this information is helpful to you, but please do contact us via the admin email - admin@camp.herts.sch.uk , through the office or phone if there is anything at all you want to discuss.

Kind regards,

The Year 3 Team

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