Year 3 Autumn Term News

Dear Year 3 Parents, Carers and Friends,

Hello and Welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed the summer break, and I look forward to catching up with you all if I have not done so already. We have had a fantastic start to the term! The children have settled in brilliantly and are excited to take on the new challenges of Year 3.

Here is an overview of our subject focuses for the term:

PSHE – The important focus for us this term, is making sure that the children are settled in their new class, feeling happy and safe. We will be learning about the "Zones of Regulation." The "Zones of Regulation" organise feelings, states of alertness and energy levels into four coloured zones. This makes talking about, thinking about and regulating our feelings easier. In the first half term our topic is **Me and my relationships** and in the second half of term we will learn about **Valuing differences**.

English – This term we will be using the story "The Barnabas Project" By the Fan Brothers as our stimulus. We have already started reading our text which the children have enjoyed so far. Our term will start with writing an informative text based on the hybrid creature the children have created. Next, we will be going back in time to the Stone age, where we will be writing a how to guide on surviving the Stone Age. After half term we will be focusing on developing our story writing skills. Reading for pleasure will remain at the centre of our reading development through story times, whole class, guided and individual reading sessions. Within these sessions, children will be explicitly taught and supported in a range of reading skills. Spellings will be sent home at the appropriate level for your child for them to learn weekly.

Maths – Our Maths lessons will use the Maths scheme 'White rose.' The children are responding really well to in and also demonstrating recall of their learning from Year 2. Lessons and activities are designed to be taught using problem-solving approaches to encourage pupils' higher-level thinking. This term we will initially focus on beginning to explore and secure place value knowledge in numbers to 1000, before moving onto addition and subtraction in a variety of concepts. We will then learn how to multiply and divide by 3, 4 and 8.

Science – During the first half term we will be exploring the topic '**rocks and soils**' and we will learn about the different types of rocks and how important soil is. In the second half term we will be focusing on '**Forces and Magnets**.' Scientific investigation and enquiry skills will be a focus throughout each topic.

Physical Education – This year one lesson will be focused on dance skills led by myself and Mrs Mihai, our Tuesday lesson will be led by a sports coach and will focus on athletics. This term PE sessions will be on a **Monday and Tuesday**. Please ensure your child is in their full Grands Vaux kit on both these days.

Computing – This autumn in Computing, Year 3 will be learning about creating, presenting, researching and collaborating.

Art, Design and Technology: In art the children will be using **clay** and focusing on the skill of slabbing, the children will make their own container using this technique. We will then link our Art with DT and will be using levers to design and make a pop-up piece of art.

History / Geography – As we explore the **prehistory from Palaeolithic through to Iron Age**. The children will develop a range of historical and geographical skills and understanding. In history, the children will ask historical questions; begin to sequence events and develop a sense of chronology of British, local and world history and use a range of sources including artefacts to understand how we research and find out about the past. In Geography, the children will use maps, atlases and digital technology to locate and name countries and continents.

RE – Using the Jersey RE scheme, our first question to explore is "What do Christians learn from the creation story?" In this topic we will look in detail at the creation story and what it means to Christians. We will then explore at the question "What is it like for someone to follow God?" in the second half of the term.

Music – In our first half term the children will learn about **Ballads,** identifying their features and how they are used to express emotions. After half term we will be focusing on our singing skills and part of this will encompass learning songs linked to Christmas.

Trips – We will be going on a variety of trips throughout the year to ensure learning gets out of the classroom. This term trips will include The Festival of Words and La Houge Bie.

Home – Learning

Homework – In Year 3, we will start the year by focusing on spellings and reading. Weekly spellings will be sent home at the appropriate level for your child, and a test will take place on a Friday.
Reading folders will come home every day with books regularly changed.

READING, READING, READING! The most important part of learning to read is learning to love reading! We aim to inspire a 'love of reading' at Grands Vaux. A 'love of reading' empowers pupils to both read for pleasure and to use their reading skills to open all other learning and life opportunities. Pupils need to leave our school as fluent readers who are able to comprehend what they have read to a high standard and as stated in the curriculum 'that, by the end of their primary education, all pupils are able to read fluently, and with confidence, in any subject in their forthcoming secondary education'. **To ensure children achieve their full potential as a reader however we must have your support**. Research proves that children who are read to and with at home are statistically more likely to progress more successfully in their education. Reading is like running – it needs practise to master and love! **Please read every day with your child and record this in their yellow reading journal.** Please support your child with remembering to bring their folder into school every day.

Other – Please provide your child with a named water bottle in class so that they can use it throughout the day and an additional water bottle for the lunch hall.
Please ensure that all school uniform, including their coat, is clearly labelled with their full name.

Your child's well-being and development is always at the centre of my concern, so please do not hesitate to contact me. My email is **r.richardson@grandsvaux.sch.je**

I look forward to a fun packed and successful year working with you and your child.

Best wishes

Rebecca Richardson