

Stanbridge Lower School



Class Letter - Year 3 Spring Term 1 - 2024

Learning News

This half term we are learning about rivers. We will study the River Nile and look closely at its human and physical features. We will also investigate why the river was so important to ancient Egypt and the role it plays in life today. This topic fits nicely alongside our Science unit where the children will be investigating rocks, fossils and soil.

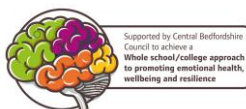
After investigating different properties of rocks we plan to look at the life of Mary Anning and have some real fossils to look at and hold. Our Art and Design Technology lessons will also follow this theme as the children will learn how to design, make and evaluate an Egyptian mask. We will also look at famous paintings of rivers and the children will recreate them using different styles and techniques.

In English, our main book study is 'Sabryna and the River Spirit' which is an interesting story about the dangers of water pollution alongside key geographical features of rivers. The story will inspire the children's imagination, and the beautiful illustrations will bring our topic of rivers to life. We will look closely at new vocabulary and the children will consolidate their understanding and ability to use a dictionary and determine the correct meaning of a word depending on the context in which it is used. As we continue reading the book every day we will discuss each part of the story using VIPERS questions. The children will also continue practising their punctuation such as commas to demarcate clauses, full stops and the use of question marks. The main character Sabryna, is also a good role model for an eco-friendly approach to life, and the story is a great way to prompt classroom discussions about how we can live in harmony with nature. We will look at different ways we can promote sustainable living and the protection of the natural world. We will then look at the features of writing to persuade, such as advertisements, letters and speeches.

In Maths, we will be continuing our block of learning on multiplication and division. We will explore the 3, 4 and 8 times tables, learning how to multiply and divide by these numbers as well as beginning to recall tables facts for them by heart. We will also look at how the 2, 4 and 8 times tables are linked and knowing facts from one can help use work out facts from the others. We will then move on to investigating how calculations can be related to one another and explaining our reasoning and understanding of how calculations can be structured. We will then learn methods for multiplying and dividing a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number, and consider how multiplication and division are linked together, and where this can help us to solve problems. Finally, in this block we will look at scaling and correspondence problems involving combinations of possibilities.



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Our second block of learning this half term will be length and perimeter, where we will be measuring in metres, centimetres and millimetres, and exploring the relationships between these units of measure. We will also revise our place value, addition and subtractions skills by solving comparison, addition and subtraction problems involving lengths. We will learn about perimeter, what it is and how to measure and calculate the perimeters of different shapes.

Gaps in Learning

English:

- Using figurative language devices - similes, metaphors, personification and alliteration.
- Using phonic knowledge to spell longer words.
- Remembering spelling rules, for example adding -ed to a regular verb to turn it into a past tense verb (jump → jumped) or altering the root word e.g. doubling the consonant of more complex verbs (beg → begged, step → stepped)
- Reading written work to check it makes sense.
- Spelling homophones correctly e.g. there/their/they're, where/wear, been/bean.
- Proofreading and editing written work independently.
- To understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by drawing simple inferences with evidence such as inferring characters' feelings.
- To identify adverbials (including fronted adverbials).

Maths:

- Automatic recall of key addition facts (shown in the table) and corresponding subtraction calculations.

Automatic recall means quick recall from memory with no working out needed.

+	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
0	0+0	0+1	0+2	0+3	0+4	0+5	0+6	0+7	0+8	0+9	0+10
1	1+0	1+1	1+2	1+3	1+4	1+5	1+6	1+7	1+8	1+9	1+10
2	2+0	2+1	2+2	2+3	2+4	2+5	2+6	2+7	2+8	2+9	2+10
3	3+0	3+1	3+2	3+3	3+4	3+5	3+6	3+7	3+8	3+9	3+10
4	4+0	4+1	4+2	4+3	4+4	4+5	4+6	4+7	4+8	4+9	4+10
5	5+0	5+1	5+2	5+3	5+4	5+5	5+6	5+7	5+8	5+9	5+10
6	6+0	6+1	6+2	6+3	6+4	6+5	6+6	6+7	6+8	6+9	6+10
7	7+0	7+1	7+2	7+3	7+4	7+5	7+6	7+7	7+8	7+9	7+10
8	8+0	8+1	8+2	8+3	8+4	8+5	8+6	8+7	8+8	8+9	8+10
9	9+0	9+1	9+2	9+3	9+4	9+5	9+6	9+7	9+8	9+9	9+10
10	10+0	10+1	10+2	10+3	10+4	10+5	10+6	10+7	10+8	10+9	10+10

- Rapid automatic recall of learnt times tables (x2, x5, x10, x3 to date), and corresponding division facts.
- Automatic recall of doubles and halves to double 20.
- Use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction to solve missing number problems.
- Understand which digits always, sometimes or never change when adding or subtracting ones, tens and hundreds.
- Spotting patterns and using known facts to support larger calculations e.g. if $5 + 3 = 8$, then $50 + 30 = 80$, $500 + 300 = 800$ etc.
- Secure understanding and accuracy when using column method to add or subtract.



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Good News	<p>Well done to all the children for their singing and dancing in the Christmas production. They all worked really hard to produce such a great performance!</p> <p>The children have loved taking it in turns to take our class pet 'Snowflake' the owl home for a few days. It has been lovely for the rest of the class to see what he has been up to and the children have all been excited to share this with the class when he returns. Thank you for supporting your children in this activity, they are definitely excited every week to see who is taking him home!</p>
Homework Updates	Homework for Maths and English will now be set via Doodle Learning. You will receive login details soon. In addition to this, please ensure your child continues to read daily at home as well as use Timetable Rockstars to support their multiplication skills and knowledge.
Uniform & Name Labels	Please ensure children are wearing the correct school uniform and have everything they need to be successful in school, including PE kits, hats, gloves and water bottles. It is also essential that all these items are named, so we can ensure the right item goes home with the right child.
PE Kits	<p>For swimming, children will need a swimming kit consisting of swimming trunks for boys and a one piece costume for girls, a towel and swimming cap in a small bag for swimming sessions on Wednesdays.</p> <p>Our other PE day will remain a Friday, when children will need shorts and t-shirt for gymnastics lessons. As stated on a previous newsletter, there is no spare kit in school, so children may not be able to take part if they do not have correct PE kit. It is advisable for children to leave PE kits in school, so that it is readily available.</p>
Swimming	Statutory swimming sessions begin on 10 th January - 27 th March 2024. Thankyou to all those parents who have worked with us to ensure everyone can attend. The children are very excited about it.
Library	Year 3 will visit the library every week and the children are welcome to choose a book of their choice. If they wish to keep it for longer than a week then they can do.



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