

# Year 3 - Term 1

Dear Parents/Guardians,

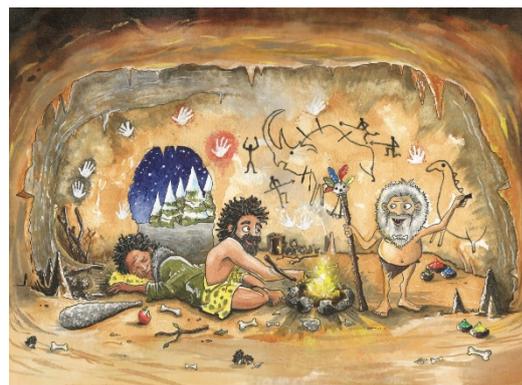
We are very pleased to welcome back all students now joining Key Stage 2 and Year 3. We hope that you all had a fantastic time over the summer holidays and we look forward to working with you and your children during the coming year. We have lots of exciting learning planned.

## Meet the team

The year 3 staff team this year will be Mrs. Paul (Mon/ Tues) and Miss Hills (Wed / Thurs / Fri) in Tigers and Mrs. Watts in Polar Bears. Mr. Boxall will be supporting learning in Tigers and Mrs. Winter will be supporting in Polar Bears. We are also lucky to have Mr. Young supporting across the year group.

## Curriculum Overview for Year 3

Our Learning Journey this term will be based around the question '**Could I survive the Stone Age?**' We will be exploring this exciting time period across all curriculum areas. In History, we will become Archaeologists, placing the Stone Age on a timeline, exploring cave art and discovering what a Stone Age diet was like. In Geography, we will be plotting Stone Age finds on maps and exploring where Stone Age people chose to settle and in Science we will be exploring rocks and fossils and undertaking lots of scientific investigations.



Later in the term, we plan to have a Stone Age survival day to see if the children can put all they have learnt into practice. More information will follow regarding this, please look out for letters on parent mail and in bags. If you would like to visit some local places to enhance your child's learning in this area then Dartford, Rochester and Maidstone museums all have Stone Age artefacts on show and they make a great afternoon out.

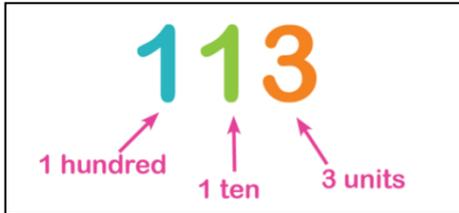
## Reading

In the first week of term all students have undertaken a STAR reader test which has created an up to date ZPD range for each child e.g. 2.4 - 3.5. This ZPD is then used to guide the children's choice of home reading book. This book will be brought home every day to read at home. We encourage the children to be independent in their book choice and in remembering to bring their book home so please support them with this step up in responsibility by asking if they have remembered. To show you have read the book with your child, please ensure you sign your child's contact book. Those students with 4 or more signatures in their book each week will receive 10 minutes of extra playtime each week as a reward for their commitment to reading alongside other whole school incentives.



## Maths

In Maths this term we will be learning about 3 digit numbers and place value. We will be continuing to use the schools Monkey Maths system this year to guide the children's learning in times tables. All students have access to the 'Times Table Rockstars' website (logins are written in the children's contact books) which can be accessed at home to support learning. The website offers a great



platform to prepare the children for the national times tables test they will be undertaking in year 4, so please encourage them to use it. Times tables practice is also a great time filler e.g. on a long car journey, waiting for a club to start etc. Research shows that exposure and practice little and often is the best way for children to learn.

## PE

This term year 3 will be going swimming for 3 weeks for PE. Polar bears will be going on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September and Tigers on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> October. Please ensure you send your child with an appropriate kit on those days, in a bag that is easy to carry



to the swimming pool. The children will be fully supervised by both male and female staff at all times at the pool and on the walk to and from the pool. There will be other opportunities for PE throughout the school week so the expectation is that all children have normal PE kits available in school at all times and the ability to remove earrings whenever needed.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss anything further, please don't hesitate to get in touch via the school office or book at appointment with your child's class teacher. We are very much looking forward to the coming term.

Mrs. Watts, Miss Hills and Mrs. Paul.