

Dear Year 3 Parents/Carers,

Friday 5th September 2025

Year 3 Curriculum Letter - Autumn 1

Message from the teachers

Welcome to Year 3! There is so much to look forward to this year as you start the new adventure in year 3 such as getting to check out the playground and visiting our school library. We will also be visiting a Gurdwara at the end of the Autumn term and the Chiltern Air Museum as a conclusion to finding out about the Stone age in History in the summer term. This letter will give you an idea of some of the lessons your child can look forward to during the first half term.

Our Core Values

Happiness: we spread joy to those around us.

Compassion: we care and are kind to all.

Respect: we treat others as we like to be treated.

Teamwork: we work well with everyone.

Year 3 Staffing

Willow class teachers: Miss Troup

Iroko class teacher Miss Morse and Mrs Hooson-Jones

Year 3 learning support assistants: Mrs Eyre and Mrs Clarke

Communication

You can email class teachers directly on the class email accounts and we will do our best to get back to you within two working days.

willowclass@harefieldjunior.com

irokoclass@harefieldjunior.com

Homework

Homework, along with answers, will be sent out each Friday to be returned the following Friday.

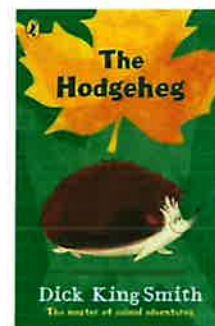
Reading books will be sent home on Mondays and a new reading book will only be sent home once the previous book has been returned on the following Monday.

Autumn Term Learning

This half term we will be learning the following in each subject area.

English

Year 3 will be reading 'The Hodgeheg' by Dick King Smith in English this term, a story linked to road safety. We will create 'Warning tale stories' based on this, where characters are given a warning to avoid a similar danger. Later this half term we will use the same text to create an instruction texts that helps readers to follow a set of rules.



Mathematics

In maths this half term, year 3 will be consolidating their knowledge of place value up to 1000. Then, we will be using addition and subtraction to solve calculations and word problems using manipulatives and concrete resources. An example of the type of word problems is:

10 more than my number is the same as 100 less than 320

What is my number?

Explain how you know.

Write your own similar problem to describe the original number.

Physical Education

The two P.E. units in year 3 this half term will include physical movement, balance, core strength and eye co-ordination, in a variety of ways. During indoor PE they will develop their fitness level, stamina and mobility.

For our outdoor PE lessons, it will either be Forest school sessions or PE. More details to follow.

Our PE days are:

Indoor PE Wednesday – Willow class and Iroko class

Outdoor PE Thursday – Willow class.

Forest School Thursday – Iroko class

Art and design

Our first unit is 'Fruit and Vegetables where children will learn how to use pencil, colour, paint, clay peppers and textiles to create quality artwork. They will also have the opportunity to explore the work of the designer, Carl Warner, textile artist, Michael Brennand-Wood and Italian painter, Caravaggio.

'Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

'Being Me' is the first PSHE unit, where the children will look forward to the year ahead and make appropriate goals that they would like to achieve and consider the obstacles that may concern them. They will then be introduced to the universal rights of the child and use these discussions to contribute to the creation of a whole class charter. #

In **Science** Year 3 will be learning about Skeletons and movement– attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning in this unit.

In **Geography** Year 3 will be learning about the UK - attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning in this unit.

In **Religious Education** Year 3 will be learning about Hindu Dharma - attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning in this unit.

In **French** Year 3 will be learning about getting to know you- attached is a knowledge organiser with more information about what the children will be learning in this unit.

Please feel free to contact us via the class email accounts should you have any questions over the term ahead.

Yours faithfully

Miss Troup and Miss Morse

Key Vocabulary

Mammal - A warm-blooded animal with a spine and hair or fur.



Bird - An animal with a spine, feathers, wings and a beak.



Fish - Animals that live in water with fins, gills and scales.



Amphibian - A cold-blooded animal with a spine that lives on land and in water.



Reptile - A cold-blooded animal with a spine and dry scales.



Spine - A group of small bones stacked on top of each other in the back, also known as the "backbone".



Antennae - The organ on an insect's head that it uses to touch and smell.



Insect - A small animal that has three body sections, six legs and antennae.



Skeleton - A collection of bones that provide protection and support movement. This appears different in different animals.



Whale

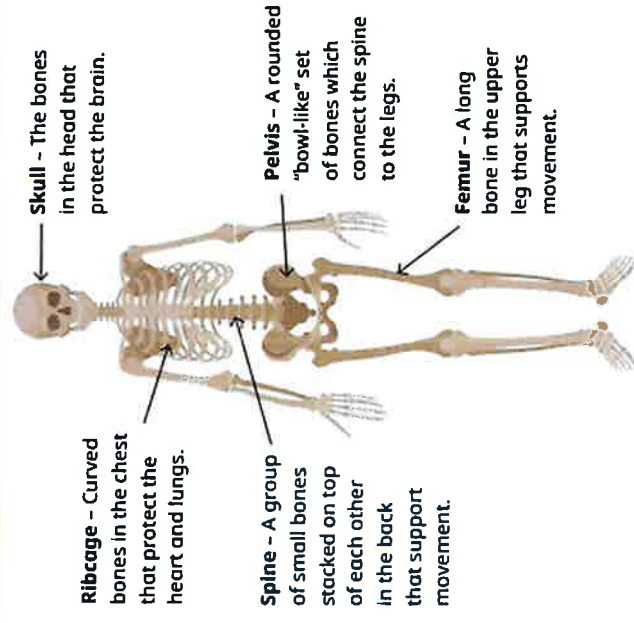


Human



Bird

Exoskeleton - A form of skeleton on the outside of an animal's body that provides support and protection.



Knowledge

- Humans have skeletons which are made up of lots of different bones.
- An adult human typically has 206 bones that make up the skeleton.
- The skull, spine (backbone), ribcage, pelvis and femur are bones within the skeleton.
- Bones have specific functions.
- The skull protects the brain.
- The femur helps humans to stand and move.
- The pelvis helps to support the spine.
- The spine helps humans to twist and be held upright.
- The ribcage protects the heart and lungs.
- Mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles have skeletons.
- There are some similarities and differences in skeletons of different animals.
- Animal skeletons are made up of lots of different bones. Some animals have a spine.
- Some animals do not have a spine.
- Some animals have an exoskeleton.
- An exoskeleton provides support and protection.
- Animals have different skeletons.
- All mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians have a spine.
- Skeletons provide support, protection and allow movement.

Key Vocabulary

Joints – A point where two or more bones meet.



Hinge joint – A joint that only allows bending and straightening.



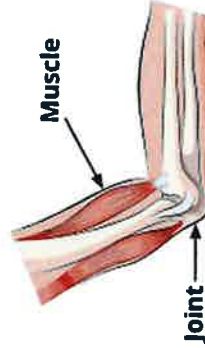
Ball and socket joint – A joint with a round head of bone that fits inside the cup of another bone to allow movement in all directions.



Skeleton – A framework of bones.



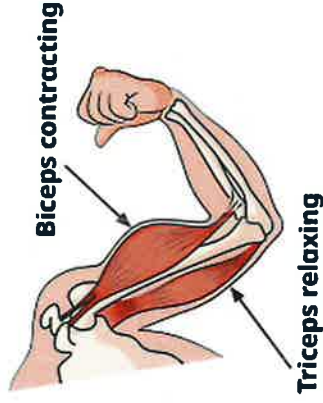
Muscle – Works with joints and bones to allow movement.



Bicep and tricep – Muscles in the upper arm.

Contracting – A tightening and shortening motion.

Relaxing – A relaxing and lengthening motion.



Knowledge

- A joint is where two or more bones meet.
- There are different joints in the human body.
- The knees and elbows are hinge joints.
- The shoulders and hips are ball and socket joints.
- Muscles are attached to bones.
- Muscles can only pull on bones and cannot push.
- Muscles work in pairs by contracting and relaxing.
- Bones, muscles and joints work together to allow movement.

Key Vocabulary	
county	A small area of the UK containing lots of towns and villages.
prime meridian	An imaginary line which divides the Earth into the eastern and western hemispheres.
immigration	People moving to another country to live there permanently.
UK	The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
Great Britain	England, Scotland and Wales.
landmark	A feature of the landscape or area that is easily recognised.
millennium	A time period of 1000 years. The New Millennium started 1 st January 2000.

The UK						
Country	Flag	Capital City	Key Landmark	Key Rivers	High Ground	
England		London	Stonehenge	Thames	Pennines	
Scotland		Edinburgh	Ben Nevis	Tay	Grampian Mountains	
Wales		Cardiff	Snowdon	Severn (also flows through England)	Cambrian Mountains	
Northern Ireland		Belfast	Giant's Causeway	Bann	Sperrin Mountains	

North Sea



Northern Ireland
Scotland
Irish Sea
England
Wales
Atlantic Ocean
English Channel

County

Local Governments control the local areas of **counties** and their services. These services include: Education, Transport, Policing, Public Safety, Social Care

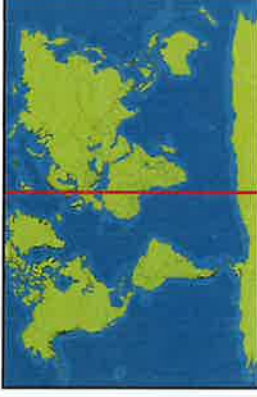
Counties include: Cornwall, Swansea, Londonderry, Aberdeenshire



Timeline of London		
Date AD (around)	Event	Population (approx.)
43	Romans invaded Britain and built a settlement called Londinium on the banks of the river Thames.	unknown
1066	After the Norman Invasion, many forts were built including the Tower of London.	
1209	London Bridge was built to replace smaller, wooden bridges on the Thames.	80 000
1665	Over 60 000 people died due to the Great Plague.	
1666	The Great Fire of London destroyed 60% of the City.	
1762	Buckingham House was built, now known as Buckingham Palace.	1 million
1805-1886	Landmarks such as Trafalgar Square, Big Ben, Royal Albert Hall and Tower Bridge were built.	6.7 million
1939-1945	Many houses and buildings were destroyed during the Second World War.	
2000	Millennium Dome and Millennium Wheel (London Eye) were built to celebrate the new millennium .	
2012	Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park built for the Olympic Games.	8 million

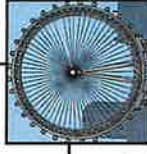
Why Might People Come and Move to the UK?

Many people decide to move to and live permanently in the **UK**. These **immigrants** can come from all over the world including Italy, India, China and Australia. They might decide to live in the **UK** to be nearer to family, for work or for a different lifestyle.



Prime Meridian

This imaginary line runs through the Royal Observatory in Greenwich. It is also used as the basis for the world's time zones.



Key Vocabulary

Hindu	Someone who follows Hindu Dharma.
Vishnu	Hindu god who protects the universe.
Brahma	Hindu god of creation.
Trimurti	The three aspects of the universal supreme God.
Tridevi	The three great goddesses of Hindu Dharma.
Brahman	Hindus recognise one God, Brahman .



Hindu Gods and Goddesses

Hindus recognise one God, **Brahman**. The gods of **Hindu** Dharma are different aspects of **Brahman**.

The main three aspects (**Trimurti**) are:

Vishnu, **Brahma** and Shiva

The three great goddesses (**Tridevi**) are:

Saraswati, Lakshmi and Shakti

Hindus can pray to different gods and goddesses for help with different needs.



Hindu Dharma is one of the oldest of the world's religions. It is now practised all over the world, but originated in South East Asia. It is a mix of different beliefs, cultures and traditions dating back over 4000 years.

Truth Is Eternal

Hindus are encouraged to learn.

Dharma

Dharma means to do the right thing with good behaviour.

Reincarnation

Hindus believe a soul cannot be destroyed, so when a **Hindu** dies, their soul enters a new living being.

Moksha

Moksha is the ultimate goal. It happens when a soul stops being reincarnated and is reunited with **Brahman**.

Key Vocabulary

mandir	A special place for Hindus to worship.
puja	Act of worship for Hindus .
murtis	Special statues or images of Hindu gods and goddesses.
shrine	A holy place to pray.
Shruti	Hindu holy scriptures which contain the four Vedas .
Smriti	Hindu holy scriptures which contain legends, myths and history.
Vedas	Ancient Hindu text.



Special Places for Hindus

Hindus can worship at home or in a **mandir**. In a **mandir**, **Hindus** can perform **puja**.

Some **mandirs** are very tall buildings. **Hindus** believe it brings them closer to heaven.

In a **mandir**, there are **shrines** and lots of **murtis** for different gods. Offerings of flowers are brought to the **murtis**.



There are holy scriptures in **Hindu** Dharma. The scriptures support **Hindus** in their life and guide prayer.

Shruti texts are knowledge from gods. **Smriti** were written by **Hindu** spiritual leaders.

Special Festivals

Holi is the 'festival of colours' and marks the beginning of spring with bonfires and lots of singing and dancing. Old rubbish is burnt to mark a fresh start and colour is thrown on people.



Diwali is the 'festival of lights' and is celebrated in late autumn. Diwali celebrates good's victory over evil with lots of lights around homes. Fireworks, presents and new clothes are used to celebrate.



Key Vocabulary

f = feminine m = masculine

		
Bonjour ! Hello!	Salut ! Hi!	Au revoir ! Goodbye!
		
Bonsoir ! Good evening!	Bonne nuit ! Good night!	Bon week-end ! Have a nice weekend!
		
À bientôt ! See you soon!	À demain ! See you tomorrow!	À tout à l'heure ! See you later!
		
Monsieur (m) Mr	Madame (f) Mrs	Mademoiselle (f) Miss



Comment t'appelles-tu ?
What's your name?

Je m'appelle Laura.
My name is Laura.

How Are You Feeling?

		
(ça va) très bien very well	(ça va) bien good/fine	comme ci, comme ça not bad/okay
		
ça ne va pas très bien not very well	ça va mal bad/not well	Et toi ? And you?



Ça va ?
How are you doing?

Très bien, merci.
Very well, thank you.

Numbers 0 to 10

zéro 0	un 1	deux 2
trois 3	quatre 4	cinq 5
six 6	sept 7	huit 8
neuf 9	dix 10	

Key Questions and Answers

Comment t'appelles-tu ?	What's your name?
Je m'appelle...	My name is...
(Comment) ça va ?	How are you doing?
Quel âge as-tu ?	How old are you?
J'ai ... ans.	I am ... years old.
Et toi ?	And you?

Saying Your Age



Key Knowledge

In French, the phrase 'J'ai ... ans' literally means 'I have ... years' rather than 'I am ... years old'.