

# KIRTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

## TERM 3 NEWSLETTER 2025



### YEAR 3

January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

We would like to wish you a happy new year and welcome to the start of 2025.

#### **Our Topic**

##### *Climate and Weather*

This term, the children will be introduced to different styles of maps. They will learn to read weather and climate maps, and learn how weather and climate are generalised into world climate zones. The concept of biomes will be explored, each with distinctive climate, soil, flora, fauna and human activity.

##### *Forces*

During this topic, children will explore how forces can make objects start to move, speed up, slow down or change direction. They will compare how things move on different surfaces. They will identify that magnets attract some materials and not others and that these are known as magnetic materials. They will learn that magnets have two poles and that two magnets will attract or repel each other, depending on which poles are facing.

#### **Maths and English**

In maths lessons, children will be learning about counting in steps of 2, 4 and 8, fractions and division, ordering fractions, and measuring in centimetres and millimetres.

In order to support your child, you could measure items around the home, practise counting forwards and backwards in numbered steps, and use basic column addition and subtraction.

It would really support your child if they were confident with their times tables. This would help them in all areas of maths. This term your child needs to learn the: *3 times table*.

x2 x10 x5 x4 x3 x8 x6 x9 x7 x11 x12 p1

In English, we will be learning about: *stories, poems, non-chronological reports, explanation texts and news reports.*

In order to support your child, you could discuss how plots and characters are developed by authors, both in books and in television dramas. You could also look at the layout of letters and the features they include. The spellings your child will be learning this term will be provided weekly and the Learning Journey spellings at the beginning of the term.

Please encourage your child to read at home every day and ask them questions about what they are reading at every opportunity.

#### **PE**

Blackbirds – Wednesday and Friday.

Moorhens – Friday and Swimming Thursday.

Starlings – Tuesday and Friday

Please ensure that your child has the appropriate PE kit. For outdoor games, the children need plain black/navy tracksuit bottoms, a plain white t-shirt, a plain sweatshirt and trainers. For indoor PE, the children need plain black/navy shorts and a plain white t-shirt.

Every item needs to be clearly labelled and in a bag that will remain in school every day. Kits will be taken home to be washed at the end of each term. No items should be taken home during the term.

#### **Homework**

Homework will be set on a Thursday and will continue to support your child's education. It will include weekly maths activities as well as reading and spelling. If there are ever any problems about the homework, please come and see us as soon as possible. We are happy to help both children and parents.

#### **Important Dates**

06.01.25 – First day of term 3

27.01.25 – Science Forces Day

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11.02.25 – Parents evening (face-to-face appointments)

12.02.25 - Parents evening (telephone appointments)

14.02.25 - Last day of term 3

24.02.25 – First day of term 4

Yours sincerely

*Miss Hodson, Miss Hovey and Miss Parmee*

**Year 3 Class Teachers**

### HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING THIS TERM:

Key things that parents can do to support their child this term related to things they will be learning about:

- Visit your local supermarket and think about the force needed to move an empty trolley compared to a full trolley. Tell your teacher what you found out.
- Look around your home and think about objects that need force to move. What type of forces do they need - pulls, pushes or twists?
- Make a biome design and see what animals live in different environments. You can find the instructions for these below.
- Why not design a parachute to try to protect an egg being dropped from a certain height? Take a photo or bring it in for us to see. 😊
- Use a fridge magnet to try and find out what materials are magnetic. You can even make your own magnet by rubbing a paperclip against a magnet.

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#### Illustrate a Biome Art Activity

A biome is a geographic area that has within it, multiple ecosystems. Biomes can include rainforests, freshwater, oceans, grasslands, the Arctic or a desert. Before you begin this activity, decide on the biome you would like to focus on in your artwork. Research the biome thoroughly – you could use information books or the Internet. Then, use a sketching pencil to sketch and label animals and plants found in your chosen biome. These will be the animals and plants that will feature in your biome artwork. Remember only to sketch as these are just ideas and not your final piece – don't add too much detail!

#### You will need:

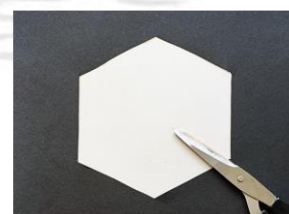
white paper  
A5 black card (half of A4)  
scissors  
sketching pencils  
colouring pencils  
fine black marker pen  
templates  
glue

#### Template Ideas:



#### Method:

1. Fill in your research sheet. Make sure you include as many plants and animals found in your chosen biome as possible. Then, select a template for your biome and cut it out carefully.
2. Place your template in the middle of the black card and trace around it with a pencil.  
**Top Tip** – Hold the paper steady with the other hand to avoid movement and wiggly lines.
3. To create the black frame for your illustration, cut out the shape from the middle of your black card.





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4. Place the now cut-out frame over your white piece of paper. Hold it down with one hand and, with a pencil, lightly trace the shape. This is where you will be drawing your biome scene.



5. Using pencil, sketch your biome scene. Look back at your research and try to include as many animals and plants as possible so that the illustration does not have empty spaces.

**Top Tip** – When drawing, make sure to go over the borders of the shape. This will mean that, once you add the black frame, there won't be any white edges.



6. Use colouring pencils to colour in your illustration; look at your research to check for patterns, colours and textures. Make sure to make the colours vibrant and check that there are no white spaces!



7. Once you have finished, put glue around the outside of your illustration and place the black frame over the drawing.

**Top Tip** – Place a piece of white paper over the picture and frame and smooth it out with your hand to make sure that the frame is glued down securely. This will stop the picture from smudging and the black frame won't get dirty.



8. Leave everything to dry. If you like, you can ask an adult to trim the frame for you to make sure that the edges are neat and tidy.

