

# Summer 1 - Class 3



Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely and joyful Easter break, and that you're now feeling energised and ready for the first half of the final term of the academic year. The theme in Class 3 for this half-term is 'America and the Slave Trade'. During this topic, our children will be exploring Britain's role in the transatlantic slave trade and the causes and consequences of enslavement for enslaved people. The children will discover how the people of Britain benefited from the money and goods produced by the slave trade and will learn about the causes and consequences of the abolition of slavery in the 19th century, the worldwide African diaspora and the European colonisation in Africa. They will explore the lives and actions of black people in 20th century Britain and will understand how the Race Relations Act of 1965 became the first piece of British legislation to tackle racial discrimination. In Art this term, the children will explore some artwork surrounding our topic work on America, including graffiti style writing and Statue of Liberty sketching and drawing.

In English this half term we are reading the book "Freedom". The story follows a young boy called Nat, who is enslaved on a Jamaican plantation. When Nat is brought to England in the 1700s, he hopes to finally find freedom from bondage. Instead, Nat discovers the disappointing truth that slavery is still very much alive in England – and he witnesses the heavy role that Britain plays in operating the slave trade.

As always, our guided reading sessions will focus on the children using their VIPERS in order to be able to decode and use new vocabulary, make inferences about the texts we are looking at, as well as be able to answer comprehension style questions about the different texts.

In Maths this half term, Year 5 and Year 6 children will be looking at the topic of fractions, decimals and percentages, as well as looking at shape and measure. Children will continue to develop their reasoning and problem-solving skills while exploring efficient methods.

All pupils must have quick and fluent recall of times tables and related division facts to 12x12. We encourage pupils to access TT Rockstars, at least 3 times a week, to practice their multiplication and division skills. We will continue to use the Whiterose Maths scheme with some elements of Grammarsaurus and Classroom Secrets. This will be supported by videos, worksheets and mini assessments throughout the different units. We will also be continuing to practise and use the Key Skills that most of the children are already familiar with.

The children will continue to have PE on **Tuesday** and **Thursday** afternoons, starting from Tuesday 14th April 2026. Please ensure that your child comes to school in the *correct* kit on those days. This is a white T-shirt, a black or red jumper or hoodie and black joggers or shorts with trainers. Where at all possible, PE will be outside, so please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for any cold and windy weather conditions that might occur in the next few weeks or vice versa.

## Ways to help with learning at home this term

**Spellings**—will be uploaded onto Spelling Shed for the Year 5 and 6 children to be tested on a FRIDAY. Please take a look at these each week and help your child to spell the words independently.

**Reading**—Please ensure that your child's reading book and diary comes to school every day. Please remember to write in your child's diary every time you read with them. We very much value your support in listening to your child read and ask you try and listen your child to read to you as much as possible. Sharing books together is a fantastic way to nurture positive reading habits, as well as helps them to build on their vocabulary, inference and comprehension skills.

**Homework** — Each child will receive a homework challenge menu via Seesaw. There will be enough tasks to complete at least 1 per week based on our topic. You can also choose the order in which you complete the challenges. Please don't worry if you do not get chance to complete all of the challenges, they are designed for you to pick and choose which activities you would like to do with your child and those that fit around your home life. As always, we thank you massively for your continued support.

**Mrs Hassell & the Otters (Class 3) Team**