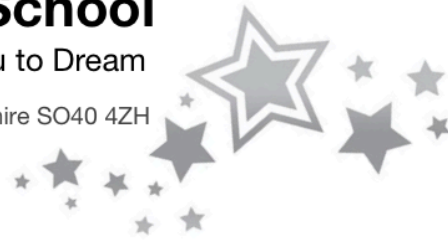




# Marchwood Junior School

Our Learning Family that Inspires you to Dream

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## Year 3 Newsletter: Spring 2

### 'Egyptians'



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### Diary dates for this half term:

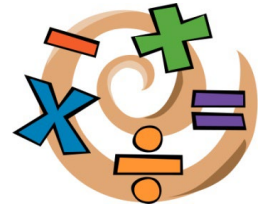
- 26<sup>th</sup> February: INSET
- 28<sup>th</sup> February: Question of Faith day
- 28<sup>th</sup> February: Parent Forum - Homework
- 8<sup>th</sup> March: PTFA Mother's Day Sale
- 14<sup>th</sup> March: Cuppa and Chat morning
- 15<sup>th</sup> March: Red Nose Day
- W/b 18<sup>th</sup> March: assessment week
- 21<sup>st</sup> March: Reading Aloud Final
- 25<sup>th</sup> March: Ancient Egyptian Day and ACE time (2.15pm)
- 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> March: Parents evenings
- 27<sup>th</sup> March: PTFA Easter Egg Hunt
- 29<sup>th</sup> March: Bank Holiday: Good Friday

Look out for weekly newsletters and other separate letters for details about the above.

Welcome to the Spring 2, Year 3 newsletter. In this newsletter, we have shared with you what your child will be learning in Maths and English and included some ideas to support your child at home. We have also shared with you about your child's curriculum topic and the exciting learning tasks they will be completing.

## **Maths**

In maths this half term, we will be focusing on:



- Consolidating children's division knowledge with a view to securing a written method for dividing larger numbers.
- Consolidating times table multiplication and division facts for 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables.
- Tell and write the time to five minutes, including quarter past/to the hour and draw the hands on a clock face to show these times.
- To compare duration of events, e.g. MOTD starts at 8.45am and finishes at 9.20am. How long did it last using a numberline?
- Fractions: exploring unit and non-unit fractions

## **What can you do at home to help?**

Regularly practise times tables. We are so grateful for all the practice your children already do on Times Table Rockstars. Knowing them will mean children can instantly recall facts in a random order. Don't forget to learn the inverse...division facts!! If your child struggles with Times Table Rockstars, Hit the Button is a really popular alternative.

## **English**

In class your child's English work will have a focus on Greek Myths. We will be reading Theseus and the Minotaur and Perseus and the Gorgons. Following that, the children will have the opportunity to make up their own mythical creature to write a myth about. During the work on Greek myths, the children will have the opportunity to write a letter in role, a diary entry and a wanted poster for their own mythological creature!



Our grammar focus this half term will be on extending their knowledge and understanding of noun phrases and conjunctions in order to improve their writing.

## **What can you do at home to help?**

Please keep sharing the reading books your child brings home from school. 10 minutes reading each day really makes a difference to your child's learning. Audiobooks are a lovely way for children to 'chill' and listen to stories. Our children have really engaged with **Reading Plus** last half term and it would be great to see this continue. Please encourage your child to

complete reading sessions on **Reading Plus** when you can, all their log in details can be found in their study log.

### **Spelling**

This half term we will be focussing on the prefix super, different spellings of the sounds sh and ch, and apostrophes for contractions. We will also re-visit rules previously covered to ensure children are retaining their new learnt words and rules. We will do a low stakes retrieval test each Monday on the spellings from the week before, so we can see how children are finding the spellings and to see which rules or patterns we may need to spend more time on.

The breakdown of the spelling rules week by week are as follows:

Week 1: Prefix 'super' or 'ous'

Week 2: Different spellings of the sound 'sh' or 'ible and 'able'

Week 3: The 'k' sound spelt with 'ch' or 'or' and 'aw'

Week 4: Apostrophes for contractions or 'u-e' and 'ew'

Week 5: Apostrophes for contractions or 'i-e'

Week 6: Year 3 and 4 compulsory words or 'o-e'

### **What can you do at home to help?**

Your child has weekly spelling note, showing you the focus for the week. Any time practising these together at home is hugely beneficial and will help them retrieve and apply the spelling rules and patterns, we are learning in class.

The children have their username and password details for the Spelling Shed website stuck into the front of their study logs. It has two different settings, which the children can choose from to practise the spelling list words in a fun and interactive way. Please encourage your child to practise spellings from stage 3 and 4 (years 3 and 4) to consolidate what we are learning in school, although it doesn't hurt to revise year 2 words as well. If your child is unsure about how to log in, please encourage them to ask one of us for support.

## Ancient Egyptians

This half term, the children will be taking part in a history-based topic where we will be learning about the Ancient Egyptians. The children will have the chance to explore the Egyptian culture and end our topic with a dress-up themed day. We will run a rotation of different activities that will hopefully engage and excite the children whilst also allowing them to explore daily Egyptian life.



Our topic in **PSHE** is based on diversity. We will focus on differences and similarities in people in our class, families and society.

In **Art**, Year 3 will be learning about clay this half term. The children will find out how to use the clay and the different techniques that can be used. We will then create our own clay Egyptian amulets using what we have learned.

In **Science**, we will continue our learning about plants to look at the life cycle of a plant and pollination, then at the different parts of a seed, germination, different types of seeds and the many ways that seeds are dispersed. To enhance your child's learning you may wish to grow plants from seeds yourselves at home or give your child the responsibility to look after a plant for a few weeks. You could also look closer at the wide variety (shape, size etc.) of seeds.

In **Computing**, the children will be continuing their experience of Microsoft Office and will be learning how to create a PowerPoint presentation.

In **RE** we will be learning about the changing emotions within the Easter story.

### PE Days:

**3C:** Tuesdays and Thursday

**3S:** Tuesdays and Wednesdays

**3T:** Tuesdays and Thursday

Please ensure every child has their PE kit in school **every day**, and a plastic bag in which to place muddy PE trainers! A warm, long sleeved top and track suit bottoms are advisable for cold days.

As you will be aware from our recent letter, we will be learning to play the recorder in **Music** this half term as well as learning how to read a number of musical notes.

## **Homework**

This term, children will be given a topic homework which is one piece of homework relating to an afternoon subject. The children will be given a few weeks to complete this and it will be handed out within the first couple of weeks so keep an eye out for this in study logs, it is a retrieval quiz on last term's history topic on Stone Age to Bronze Age.

**Thank you for your continued support with homework and shared home reading. This really makes a difference to your child's education.**

So far this academic year we have introduced your children to Independence, Collaboration and Emotional Intelligence as our school's key Learning Behaviours and this half term our Learning Behaviour is **Evaluation**. The children will be looking back on different things they have done and reflecting on them. We will think about what went well and what we could do to improve it next time. The children will use these evaluation skills to decide 'Which was the most successful civilisation (the Bronze Age or Ancient Egypt) and why?'

Do not hesitate to catch us at the gate after school if you have any queries or email us via the emails listed at the start of this letter.

Many thanks for your support.

Year 3 Team: Mr Southwell, Mrs Shutler and Miss Taplin