

Newcomen Primary School

Year 3 Curriculum Overview

Introduction

Welcome to Year 3! At Newcomen Primary School, we are passionate about enthusing our children with a love of learning which is both meaningful and relevant. Our curriculum is designed to allow our children to develop all important human qualities and dispositions. While knowledge is integral to the design of our ambitious curriculum, the key driver is the ethos and values of our school. We have a holistic approach where pupils can access a knowledge rich, vocabulary focused curriculum which builds skills and reinforces learning. We offer children an exemplary education in a safe, calm and purposeful environment. Our aim is to nurture well-rounded, respectful and resilient children who will develop skills for life-long learning. We aspire for all our children to be respectful of themselves and of others in our school, our local community and the wider world.

English

At Newcomen Primary School, we promote a shared love and understanding of English whilst nurturing an appreciation of language and the use of high level vocabulary. During the Autumn Term, we will begin by studying poetry with a focus on recital, structural analysis and reading with prosody. Following this, the children will become immersed in Michael Morpurgo's *'The Butterfly Lion'* and will develop their narrative writing using the book as a stimulus. The children will study other genres of writing throughout the year. In addition, your child will continue to develop their comprehension skills in discrete, focused reading lessons where they will study a wide range of high-quality reading material in order to enhance levels of comprehension. Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling lessons will occur on a weekly basis to promote high standards of Literacy, articulacy and the correct use of standard English. Your child will be given spellings on a weekly basis and will be tested on them on the same day the following week. Head Teacher stickers are awarded to those achieving 100% and are highly valued by the children. Moreover, the most successful class will be visited by our beloved school mascot Leonardo for the entire day!

Reading

At Newcomen, we believe that reading is a vital skill and enables your child to access a wealth of knowledge. Therefore, reading is a priority and lies at the heart of our curriculum. We recognise it is essential that your child not only reads fluently and with confidence, but also develops a wide and rich vocabulary. Comprehension skills are taught explicitly through shared and individual reading and this allows them to define and use new vocabulary. In school, emphasis is placed on reading aloud with clarity, prosody and intonation. Children, who experience regular reading at home, benefit from improved confidence and reading skills. Every child in Key Stage 2 will receive a Collins Big-Cat colour-banded book and a Reading for Pleasure book to enjoy at home with an adult. Therefore, your support with reading at home is valued and appreciated. Please allow time for your child to read their school reading book to you, discuss their understanding of the text and sign their reading record to allow them to be rewarded with the appropriate certificate. The government recommends daily reading with your child stating that "parents who engage their children in books, prepare them to become committed and enthusiastic readers. Parents have the power to transform the attitudes of their children towards reading." If a child is provided with the utmost support in reading, they will have a greater chance to access all aspects of the curriculum.

Maths

At Newcomen Primary School, we believe that a high-quality mathematics education provides a foundation for understanding the world. The mathematics curriculum is split into four major strands – number, measurement, geometry and statistics. These will be visited each term and built upon as the year progresses. The principal focus of mathematics teaching in lower key stage 2 is a solid understanding of number and place value. This understanding will ensure that the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) are used with confidence. All children will practise their maths knowledge facts and their multiplication tables. It is crucial your child knows their multiplication and maths knowledge facts and spends time at home learning them. Emphasis within the school day is also placed on mental arithmetic. To develop this, at the start of the day, children complete a series of mental arithmetic and reasoning questions to help them improve their understanding of mathematical concepts. Due to this fact, it is essential that your child arrives at school on time to complete their daily mental maths task.

The Wider Curriculum

In **History**, the children will begin learning about changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. Following this, they will move onto The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain. In **Geography**, the children will have the opportunity to enhance their map and fieldwork skills. We will also complete a study of the United Kingdom.

In **Art and Design**, the children will be studying the formal elements of art and produce their own 3-D sculptures and pre-historic artwork. During **Design Technology**, we will be learning the seasonality of food in the UK, exploring electronics and building castle structures.

In **Science**, the key focus is to enable the children to broaden their scientific view of the world around them. They will do this through exploring, talking about, testing and developing ideas about everyday phenomena and the relationships between living things and familiar environments. The topics the children will be learning about this year are Rocks, Animals – including Humans, Light, Plants and Forces and Magnets.

In **Religious Education (RE)**, the children will learn about the Christian creation story. They will learn about family life, festivals and places of worship in Judaism and Islam. They will go on to explore what kind of world Jesus wanted and how we can make our world a better place.

Computing is an essential part of the curriculum as it prepares the children for the digital age in which we live. Over the course of the year, the children will be learning the skills of Coding, Touch Typing and Email. They will also be working on Simulation, Branching Databases and Spreadsheets. In the summer term, the children will use Graphing and Presentation software. Online safety permeates all aspects of the computing curriculum.

Physical Education (PE) will begin by focusing on health and fitness, stamina and agility. The children will go on to study modules of dance, gymnastic, athletics and invasion games and strike/fielding games throughout the year.

In **French**, the children will develop their love of learning another language predominately through fun speaking and listening activities including songs, role play and the sharing of appropriate texts.

In **Music**, the children will listen to, review and evaluate various genres of music learning how to identify pulse, rhythm, dynamics and tempo. Moreover, they will learn to sing and to use their voices to create and compose music on their own and with others. Children will have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and perform and improvise songs within a class setting.

Your children's well-being is of paramount importance. As such, our weekly **Relationship Education** sessions will be designed to support the children with this. We are very much looking forward to using the curriculum to offer our children guidance, support and reassurance. The key themes we will be exploring: Being Me in My World, Celebrating Difference, Dreams and Goals, Healthy Me, Relationships and Changing Me.

Important Information

Attendance - 'Attend and Achieve' is a motto we are very proud of at school. If your child is not here, then they cannot learn. Please work with us to ensure that your child has the best possible opportunity to succeed.

PE - School have provided children with their own individual P.E. kit to wear during lessons. Please ensure that your child has this kit in school on their P.E day and it remains in school throughout the week. **Class 7 P.E. day will be Wednesday, Class 8 will have P.E. on a Monday.** The only jewellery acceptable is a watch and stud earrings (which are removed for PE) or taped up. It is the child's responsibility to provide and adhere their own plasters for earrings. Asthmatic children need a named inhaler in school at all times.

Spellings – The children will be tested on a **Monday**. Please ask your child for their spelling log and ensure that you review the spelling rule with your child when they are learning their spellings at home. Thank you so much for your support with this.

Equipment – Children are expected to bring their Maths Knowledge, Spelling Logs, English Knowledge Book, Reading Record and Reading Books every day and revise these on an evening.