

15th April 2024

Dear Year 3 Parents and Carers,

We hope you have all had a relaxing and restful Easter break. The summer is finally upon us and hopefully so is some lovely weather! Please be mindful that with the warmer weather does also come the dreaded hay fever! If your child does suffer from hay fever during the summer months, please ensure that they have been given any medication they may need before coming to school. We will be heading outside as often as we can during the school day so please ensure your child is bringing a sun hat to school and has applied sun cream in the morning. A lightweight raincoat is also recommended.

Curriculum

Our new topic for this half term is another Geography-based topic: The UK. We will be looking at where the UK sits on a world map, as well as its position in Europe, reading 4 figure grid references using an atlas to locate features on a map, looking at the location of key cities in the UK using a map, studying the climate of the UK compared to other European countries, comparing urban and rural parts of the UK and looking at the symbols used on a map. We will also be looking at the four countries that make up the United Kingdom as well as some of their most famous landmarks and cities!

English

In our English lessons, we will be starting the topic by writing our own performance poems based around the UK. We will be looking at rhyming structures and imagery that reflects the topic. We will then publish our poetry using watercolours to create a beautiful background to write our poem onto. We will then be studying playscripts and looking at the differences in structure and layout compared to a narrative or non-fiction piece of writing.

In our Grammar lessons, we will be looking at prepositions and prepositional phrases, writing in the present-perfect tense and using paragraphs accurately in our writing. Please ensure that, if your child is writing anything at home, you are encouraging them to check for capital letters and full stops, as these are crucial in their writing fluency. You will find that the grammar homework (intertwined with the reading homework) links to the area taught in that week. As always, if you are ever unsure of grammatical terminology, please do reach out to your class teacher – a lot has changed over the years! No question is ever a silly question. There are also some new and updated Tutorial pages on our school website which detail some of our grammar topics. These can be found here: [Connaught Junior School - English - SPaG](#) and then under the Tutorials tab.

Mathematics

Headteacher: Miss S McGann

Deputy Headteacher: Miss K Whiting

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In Mathematics, the children will be continuing their learning looking at fractions, including looking at tenths as both fractions and decimals, fractions placed on a number line, fractions of objects (for example, $\frac{1}{4}$ of the balls are blue), equivalent fractions (using manipulatives to support through use of a fraction wall to compare fractions), ordering fractions and adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator. We will then be moving on to looking at time where we will recap o'clock, quarter past, quarter to and half past times, the months of the year, hours in a day, telling the time both to 5 minutes and the minute, using AM and PM as well as the 24-hour clock and working out the duration of events using start and end times. Time is always a tricky concept to grasp so please do encourage your child to be telling the time at home, working out how long things will last and recapping the months of the year regularly. We find that having children wear an analogue watch rather than a digital watch helps hugely in teaching them to read a clock!

Times tables underpins all of our maths topics and it is important that our children are confident in quickly recalling both the multiplication and division facts in any order: we hope that they continue to use Times Tables Rock Stars as well as any other methods they enjoy to practise their times tables at least 5 times a week. We will be beginning the four times table and your child's set tables on Times Tables Rock Stars should reflect this: please contact your child's class teacher if this is not the case.

PSHE

In PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economics) this term we will be looking at the unit, Relationships. In this unit, the children will explore the different roles and jobs that they may take on in the future whilst challenging gender stereotypes. We will look at the different roles within a family unit and who might take on these roles. We will look at the importance of friendships and how to nurture these friendships as healthy, balanced relationships. Linking with our Computing, we will also look at how to keep safe online and ensure our online relationships are safe. We will then move onto looking at our role on a more global scale, and how we can all play our part in keeping the world a safe and sustainable place to live, as well as looking at the rights that we all have as global citizens. We will finish the half term off by looking closely at our own circle of friends and how we can show our friends appreciation.

PE

PE is still timetabled for Tuesdays and Fridays. Please make sure everything is named so that we are able to quickly and easily reunite children with any misplaced items. Being active during P.E. is an important part of the message of healthy living that we promote at Connaught and we aim to encourage full participation in P.E. at all times. As the weather is now getting warmer, please make sure that the children have suitable shorts and t-shirts.

And finally...

As always, we are always outside at the end of the day and available should you wish to speak to us. If you would like more time, an appointment can be arranged at a time that suits you. Class email accounts are regularly monitored and this is often the best way to pass on quick notes or to ask questions. Please be aware that, although these are monitored regularly, we do have a 48-hour response time and teachers are teaching their class during the day and so may not have time to respond immediately.

Kind regards,

Mrs Blight-Skipp

Miss Knight

Mr Stewart

Mrs Youle

Headteacher: Miss S McGann

Deputy Headteacher: Miss K Whiting

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