



WELCOME

First, we want to say a huge welcome to all of our year 3 children and families. We have been extremely impressed with how quickly your children have settled into life here at CJS and we are very excited for the year ahead. We are certain the children will thoroughly enjoy all the opportunities available.

ENGLISH

We have started the term with a narrative unit inspired by the beautiful *Home, Sweet Home* video, and the children are now writing their own journey stories. We are focussing on key grammar skills, including punctuation, expanded noun phrases and the coordinating conjunctions. We will then create persuasive leaflets linked to our Geography learning, encouraging visitors to come and explore Christchurch. After half-term, the children will continue to develop their story-writing skills through a Stone Age narrative inspired by *Stone Age Boy*, linking closely to our History learning. We will finish the term by exploring poetry, focusing on haikus and creating our own winter-themed poems.

READING

In Year 3 we enjoy reading lessons four times a week which gives children lots of opportunities to develop their fluency, comprehension and love of books. This half-term, we will be exploring *Adventuremice*, which links beautifully to our theme of journeys. After half-term, we will read *The Wild Way Home*, a wonderful story set in prehistoric times that will complement our History learning about the Stone Age and help bring learning to life through rich discussion and engaging texts.

MATHEMATICS

At CJS we follow the Maths No Problem! programme. This term, we will begin with place value before moving on to addition and subtraction, helping children to develop fluency, reasoning and confidence in their mathematical understanding.

SCIENCE

In Science, we will be exploring the fascinating topic of light, investigating how we see things and how shadows are formed. The children will enjoy a range of hands-on experiments and investigations, helping them to think and work like scientists. After half-term, we will move on to learning about the human skeleton, discovering how our bones support and protect our bodies and how they work with muscles to help us move.

HISTORY

In History, we will be travelling back in time to learn about the Stone Age. The children will discover what life was like for people living in prehistoric Britain, exploring how they hunted, gathered food and adapted to their environment. There will also be strong links to our English and Reading lessons, helping children to deepen their understanding of the Stone Age through stories, discussion and creative writing.

GEOGRAPHY

In Geography, we will be learning about villages, towns and cities and where people live in the UK. Children will develop their map skills, explore human and physical features, and make links to our learning about journeys across the curriculum. We will also be launching our exciting year-long *Lego Hiker* project, where our travelling Lego adventurer will embark on weekend adventures both locally and across the UK with families from Year 3. Children will use photographs, maps and geographical vocabulary to share and the places Lego Hiker visits throughout the year.

Spanish/French

A specialist teacher from Twynham School will be teaching the children Spanish/French every week. The children will be introduced to the language in short bursts to help begin to develop their general conversation skills. 3AM and 3LY will study Spanish with 3AW and 3NJ studying French.

PSHE

In PSHE we start the year with a unit called 'Being in my World' which covers facing new challenges, our rights and responsibilities to ourselves and others and how the choices we make have consequences. After half term we will work on 'Celebrating differences' covering dealing with conflict and giving and receiving compliments.

PHILOSOPHY and RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (PRE)

We will be focusing on Hinduism and the Diwali festival. We will follow this with a study of Christianity and the celebration of Christmas.

MUSIC

We are very lucky to have our music specialist, Mrs Green, who delivers all the music lessons throughout school. This term we will be exploring rhythm patterns using a rhythm square. Children will be using body percussion and untuned percussion instruments to perform and compose their own rhythms recording them in a rhythm square. We will then be composing melodies using the pentatonic scale.

COMPUTING

We will be using computers to focus on text and graphics. We also aim to develop children's keyboard skills using Microsoft Word and to teach them how to stay safe whilst using the internet.

ART AND DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

In Art, our learning will focus on *Gestural Drawing* using charcoal. Children will explore how artists use quick, expressive marks to capture movement, shape and form. Through a range of practical activities, they will develop their observational drawing skills, experiment with different charcoal techniques and learn how to create texture, tone and depth in their artwork. During the second part of the term we will be creating exciting pop-up cards as part of our DT project looking at levers and linkages.

PE AND GAMES

We will be learning the skills and techniques needed for football, netball, tag rugby and hockey. As always, teamwork, communication and resilience will be a key focus in all our PE lessons. Some lessons will be delivered by your class teacher and others will be delivered by our PE specialist, Mr Haarris.

HOME LEARNING

We first want to thank you in advance for supporting your children's learning at home. It really does make such a difference.

Reading

All children are expected to read daily at home for 10 minutes and then this can be signed off on their Reading Challenge Sheets. Your child's teacher will collect the sheets every Friday for a check-in. The children can complete extra challenges for different certificates.

Maths

Our Maths home learning is based on DoodleMaths and Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) which are both online learning programmes.

For DoodleMaths, the expectation is that the children are in the Green Zone on Fridays and they complete 20 minutes of TTRS over the week. For both of these we recommend that 'little and often' is better than the children using these programmes once a week for 20 minutes.

Our weekly Celebration Assemblies will involve both DoodleMaths and TTRS certificates, house points, extra play and class trophies to encourage participation and motivation.

Spellings

Spellings and Phonics will be taught regularly at school. We will continue to send out the week's spellings as a paper copy and on Class Dojo each Monday to practise at home for the test on Fridays.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's education or wellbeing, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher or send a message on Class Dojo. Our priority is for your children to be happy, safe and successful in our care. Thank you for all your continued support.

Miss Jackson
Year Leader
3NJ

Miss Melvin
3AM

Mrs Landrebe
Mrs Yeatman
3LY

Miss Wilkes
3AW