



# ELIOT BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL Y3 CLASS NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Year 3 Class newsletter—full of key information for the term ahead. This term, our context for learning is: **The Amazon Rainforest**

**'Why Should We Care?'**

**Year 3 Team: Class teachers—*Mr Green and Mrs Lyttle***

**Class TAs - *Ms Nunns and Miss Midmore***

## English

We have started the term by looking at the picture book 'The Midnight Fair' by Gideon Sterer and Mariachiara Di Giorgio. We will also be using texts such as 'The Great Kapok Tree' by Lynne Cherry to produce a range of writing outcomes such as narratives, newspaper reports and letter writing. We will be referring to our Year 3 Writing Toolkit, focusing on using adjectives in expanded noun phrases, adverbs and punctuation; including correct use of speech marks. In addition, the children are being encouraged to expand their vocabulary, using a range of synonyms supported by word banks and thesauruses. Children will use a range of strategies to immerse themselves into the text, including drama, creating freeze frames, 'hot seating' and walking down 'conscience alley'.

## Maths

This term Year 3 will be engaging in a range of mental maths activities designed to develop number understanding and fluency. There will be a strong focus on times tables and the children will engage in a range of fun activities to ensure progression within this area. The term will begin with our fraction topic and part of their learning will be to compare and order fractions. The children will also be learning about time and enhancing their skills in using this in the real world. Other topics to be taught include properties of 2D and 3D shape and measurement (length, mass and capacity). At the end of the year, children will focus on multiplication and division.

## Geography

This term, our topic will have a geography focus and our context for learning is **The Amazon Rainforest—'Why Should We Care?'**. The children will use atlases and learn how to read maps, focusing on where the Amazon is in terms of the world, the continent and country. There will be opportunities to locate the Tropics, the Arctic and Antarctic Circles, Prime Meridian, and Northern and Southern Hemispheres. We will look at the climate in the rainforest and compare it to our own. The children will think about the different animals and people who live there and the biodiversity, linking this to the current issues concerning climate change. Another key aspect of their learning will be the impact of humans on the Rainforest.

## Science

Our Science topic for the first half term is 'Plants'. Children will learn to identify and describe the different parts and functions of plants and will explore what plants need for life and growth. During the second half term, we will be studying 'Animals, Including Humans'. Children will take part in practical investigations aimed to nurture their curiosity and encourage their questions about the complexities of our bodies and how we compare to other creatures.



### Music

This term, Y3 will have Music lessons every Thursday with Mr Prescott. They will learn to read and play different notes on the recorder, syncopated rhythms and different articulations (staccato vs legato)!

### PE

For PE, the children will be swimming every day for two weeks (15th May—25th May). This will be led by a swimming teacher at Forest Hill Pool. In indoor PE, the children will learn dance linked to their Geography topic of the Amazon Rainforest. The children will practise using different parts of their body to understand movement, shape and form to communicate ideas, feelings and thoughts.

### Art

This term we are following the National Gallery Take One Picture project. Our focus picture is 'Surprised!' by Henri Rousseau. We will be examining and analysing the painting and the children will be creating their own work in response to the aspects of the artwork which most interest them.

### Computing

In computing this term, the children will be studying 'Creating Media - Desktop Publishing'. They will become familiar with the terms 'text' and 'images' and understand that they can be used to communicate messages. They will use desktop publishing software and consider careful choices of font size, colour and type to edit and improve premade documents.

### RE

This term our RE focus is Hinduism. We will be looking at the different gods and how Hindus live, comparing this to other religions we have studied.

### PSHE

The first half term we are looking at 'What Helps Us Choose', thinking about healthy choices in terms of nutrition and exercise. Next half term we will be focussing on Identity, society and equality: Celebrating difference.

### Reminders

**Jewellery:** The only jewellery we allow are watches and stud earrings. If possible your child should not wear earrings on PE days.

**Uniform:** Please ensure all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name and encourage them to look after their belongings. If you are unsure about school uniform, please look on the school website.

**We endeavour to be a nut free school. Please be aware of this when you prepare your child's lunch box. This includes peanut butter, Nutella, pesto, hummus and products with sesame seeds.**

**Water bottles and snack:** Please ensure your child brings in a named water bottle, filled with water, each day. Children have snack time and are allowed to bring in a piece of fruit each day.

**PE:** Outdoor PE for **both classes** is on **Thursday**. Your child will need a t-shirt, navy tracksuit trousers and trainers or plimsolls. Please ensure this is labelled.

Indoor PE for **both classes** is on **Tuesday**. Please remember your child needs a round neck white short sleeved t-shirt and navy shorts (above the knee).

**Swimming:** There will be two weeks of swimming lessons every day for the two weeks commencing 15th to the 25th May. Please ensure your child brings their correct equipment every day. A letter will be sent home closer to the date with full details.

### Home Learning

Your child will have learning to do at home each week. This will include:

**Mathletics:** This will be set each week on Tuesday.

**Multiplication:** Children should be practising their times tables daily.

**1:1 Reading** We expect children to read 4-5 times a week and record this in their journal (to be signed by their parent/ carer). Please ensure your child brings in their reading journal every week.

**Take away tasks:** Children have been sent take away tasks to be completed over the summer term at home. Please bring these in so we can celebrate your child's work in the classroom.

### Important dates



**Year 3 Swimming**  
w/c 15th May and w/c 22nd May

**Whole Class photos**  
17th May

**Half term**  
Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June

**INSET Day**  
26th May  
5th June

**Trip to Kew Gardens**  
16th June—details to follow

**Parents Evening**  
Thursday 6th July

**Open Morning**  
Tuesday 4th July

**Sports Day**  
TBC

**Last day of term**  
Thursday 20th July

