

WESTERN ROAD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
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January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 3. I hope you all had a fun and restful Christmas and New Year. We have a fun term ahead of us with lots of interesting topics to explore together. Our school trip to the Ashdown Forest is Wednesday, January 17th. A MS Form has gone out with more information. Please ensure it is completed as soon as possible, if you haven't already done so.

Our topic for Term 3 is The Stone age to The Iron age. This is a topic which covers millions of years of history. Throughout the topic, we will be considering how life has changed since the Stone Age. We will be exploring Skara Brae, considering the diet of a Stone Age person, investigating Iron Age Hillforts and identifying the differences between the three different periods, Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age.

In English, we are starting the term looking at the book 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth' by Michelle Roberston. We will use imperative verbs to create our step by step instructions of washing this prehistoric animal as well as using engaging and creative language. We will then be using our knowledge of Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age to create Kennings poetry.

Our library and reading day is on Tuesday. In addition to bringing in their library books, every child must bring in a book to read on this day – this may be a decodable school book or a book from home/library if they are a free reader. Our colour band book scheme is changing to match our phonics program. If your child is on the colour band scheme, more information will be given in the coming weeks to inform you of the new decodable reader scheme.

In maths we are continuing to look at multiplication and division. We will continue to embed the times table facts of the 3, 4 and 8's by practicing our fluency daily. We will be looking at using formal methods such as the column method to work out calculations involving 1 and 2 digit numbers.

For science this term we are looking at animals, including humans. We will be exploring skeletons and muscles and comparing these between different animals. We will also be thinking about a balanced diet and how this may be different for different people and animals.

Our Art this term follows our topic and will be taught by Mrs Mannering. We will be examining ancient cave paintings to learn about the significance of the images before creating our own rock / cave paintings.

We have PE on Wednesday and Thursday this term. Both sessions will be in the hall, so please have clean trainers in school bags if boots are worn to school.

In PSHE, we will be revisiting some learning about families and friendships, including conflicts that can occur and how to resolve these. This will include breaking problems down into small, achievable resolutions and goals. We will also be linking our learning to Healthy Living Week and Science, understanding how a healthy lifestyle includes physical activity rest and diet, and finding out about the benefits of healthy eating and dental health.

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Deputy Headteacher: Rea Hamilton
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We continue to teach our foundation lessons over the term. In Music we will continue to expose children to different types of music, use specific vocabulary to respond to music and explore rhythm and beat on tuned and untuned instruments. In French we learn greetings and commands, as well as increase our vocabulary of animals, colours and numbers. In Computing we will use iPads to continue our learning of coding using Sparks Academy. In RE will learn about Islam by considering the question, 'How do festivals and worship show what matters to a Muslim?'

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to see us.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sarah Sakaki

Mrs Mannering