



CURRICULUM NOTES - 2016 /2017 YEAR 3

In Year 3, our main objective is for each child to produce work within their own standards of excellence, both in presentation and content. Every child should be able to be proud of his or her achievements.

It is a very big step from Pre-Prep or First School to Year 3 at Hall Grove. Of the many new routines to become familiar with, changing before and after games and the organisation of large quantities of kit is often the thing that they find the most traumatic and difficult. Attention to the following points can also help your child to adapt quickly to what is required:

- Make sure that they are efficient at changing their own clothes.
- Can they tie their own laces and ties and cope with football boots?
- All belongings should be obviously and clearly marked, with loops on towels, tracksuit bottoms and tops. It is essential that underwear is also clearly named.

Children can become very upset if they get into a muddle when changing and it eases their progress considerably if you can help them to be as independent as possible.

In the three core subjects of English, Maths and Science, we are looking to work through the new National Curriculum programme for Year 3.

English

Much emphasis is placed upon the correct setting out of work and the development of neat, fluid and joined handwriting.

- **Creative Writing:** Descriptive, imaginative, poetry, reporting, reproduction of simple stories, writing instructions, using information texts.
- **Grammar:** Revision of nouns and verbs, verb tenses, adjectives, singular and plural nouns, pronouns and conjunctions.
- **Punctuation:** Revision of full stops, capital letters, commas in lists, question marks and exclamation marks, speech marks and commas to mark grammatical boundaries.
- **Spelling:** Weekly target words are given for testing each week and reinforcement exercises are completed.
- **Reading:** Silent reading and reading to the teacher, group and class reading using a variety of texts including fiction, non-fiction, plays, poetry, instructional writing etc, regular comprehension exercises.

Maths

In due course, we stream the children into three groups in this subject. This means that those who find working with numbers easy and fun can study at a speed and depth that provides the most challenge for them. Those children who do not find number work easy can proceed at a pace which will prevent them from becoming disheartened. The main areas of study are:

- Revision and extension of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division skills
- Mental arithmetic
- Times tables to 12
- Problem solving
- Measure
- Weight
- Shape and symmetry
- Time
- Money
- Simple Fractions
- Data handling

Science

- Teeth and Healthy Eating
- Light and Shadow
- Magnets and Springs
- Characteristics of Materials
- Rocks and Soils
- Helping plants grow well

History

- The Celts
- The Romans in Britain
- The Greeks

Geography

- Maps and Plans / the local area
- Weather around the world
- North America

French

Emphasis on oral work to include vocabulary topics such as:

- Introducing self
- Numbers
- Clothes
- Transport
- Places
- Food and Drink
- Animals
- Songs and Games
- Constructing Sentences

RS

- Christianity (The Bible)
- The life and teachings of Jesus
- Sikhism

PSHE

Personal, Social and Health Education, with Citizenship, will be taught within the curriculum as it permeates through the curriculum. This 'subject' may be best described as 'Life Skills', where the children will have opportunities to give views and opinions on themes that are relevant to them at their age. Various issues will be discussed and explored (e.g. in role-play and as part of speaking and listening activities across the curriculum) in the safe environment of the classroom under the careful supervision of the teacher.

Art/Design and Technology

Art will be taught both as a separate subject as well as within the curriculum wherever possible. The children will study an artist and will become familiar with different materials and techniques.

Music

Music lessons in Year 3 are taught in form groups and are two half an hour sessions per week. The curriculum will provide opportunities for the children to:

1. Listen and appraise
2. Learn and perform
3. Compose

Teaching will revolve around topics such as food, transport, weather and a trip to the zoo. These will provide plenty of opportunities for cross-curricular learning and will enable the children to engage with some of the important issues that affect them now.

In the Spring Term the children will take part in an instrumental carousel which will give them a chance to try out a number of orchestral instruments. Hopefully some will find a real affinity with one of those instruments and will look to take it further.

If you are interested in your child learning an instrument, please contact Miss Lizzie Post, our Music Assistant, or Mr Waltho, our Director of Music. Year 3 will be taught in their class lessons by Mr Heffer.

Dance and Drama

The children will experience weekly dance and drama lessons with a specialist teacher. Lessons are fun and active, promoting and developing: teamwork, improvisation, coordination and spatial awareness, movement, speaking, listening and performance.

Computing and ICT

The children will cover a range of activities using different forms of technology, specifically PCs and iPads. At Hall Grove we have a range of software programs, which are not only enjoyable, but **ensure** safe development of their ICT skills. In addition to their timetabled lessons, the children will have many opportunities to practise their skills in a variety of contexts across the curriculum. Children will be provided with skills to ensure e-safety when using the internet and develop confidence in their computing ability.

Field Trips

During the year we take the children on field trips in order to enhance and extend the curriculum. These will normally take place during regular school hours and the dates can be found in the school calendar.

Stationery

Please could you supply your child with a pencil case which contains the following (named) items inside: pencils, colouring pencils, 30cm ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener, glue stick and a pair of round-ended scissors. Sketching pencils may be brought in for use during Art lessons.

Homework

Daily, the children need to:

- Read aloud to an adult
- Practise spellings
- Practise times tables and their related division facts

Spellings will be given on a Friday for testing on the following Friday. The Look, Cover, Write, Check method will be fully explained and demonstrated to the children until they are confident and able to do so independently.

SENCO

Mrs Leech is our SENCo (Special Educational Needs Coordinator), and she coordinates our approach to, and delivery of the curriculum for pupils with special educational needs. This involves communicating the specific needs of individuals to staff and parents enabling us to cater more effectively for these pupils and enrich their educational experience. If you have any concerns about your child, please speak to their Form Teacher.

Reporting to Parents

Autumn Term – there will be Parent Interviews, and you will receive two sets of Grades and an End of Term Report outlining your child's progress in English, Mathematics and Science.

Spring Term – you will receive two sets of Grades and there will be Parent Interviews.

Summer Term – you will receive two sets of Grades, one set of exam results and a full End of Term Report on all subjects.

We are always happy to see you regarding any worries or concerns. We prefer to feel that we are all working together and if queries are dealt with at an early stage then crises can be kept to a minimum and both you and your children can look forward to a happy and productive year.

Visnja Begg, Mark Collier and Anne Davidson