

Welcome to Year 3!

We have had a great first week back and hopefully the children have been excited about their first days in Year 3! Everyone has settled back happily, and the children are becoming familiar with their new class and school routines. We are very excited about the year ahead and all the new topics the children will be learning about in their first year of Key Stage 2.

Literacy: We have begun the term with a picture book called 'The Stone Age Boy,' which links to the children's history topic on the Stone Age. After this, we will be looking at information texts to complete Stone Age research. Throughout the term the children will be using rich texts to explore a variety of writing styles. For each writing style we will be looking at the structure, organisation and vocabulary used. We will also continue to practise and build on the punctuation and grammar taught in KS1. The children will also be given daily opportunities to practise their handwriting and spelling.

Numeracy: We will be focused on ensuring that the children achieve confidence and fluency in the subject areas covered this term, including place value, number and all four operations. We aim to help the children develop mastery in the curriculum areas covered, and tasks will be set as part of home learning to ensure the children have other opportunities outside the classroom to apply and embed their learning. We will also continue to practise our times tables daily and this will begin with revision of the 2 times table before exploring how this can be used to learn the 4 times table. In the second half of the Autumn term, we will build on this knowledge further to learn the 8 times table.

Science: Our Science topic this term is rocks, fossils and soils. The children will have opportunities to compare and group different types of rocks on the basis of their appearance and perform a simple investigation involving rocks. We will also consider how fossils are formed and understand how soils are made from rock and other organic matter.

History: The focus for this half term is Changes in Britain from The Stone Age to The Iron Age. The children have already begun to immerse themselves in this topic and have generated some historical inquiry questions that they will endeavour to answer as the term progresses. Our focus will be on how society and communities were formed during this period of History.

Computing: This half term we will be use our class text 'Stone Age Boy' to programme and code characters in the story to re-tell the story. Later in the term, we will use Lego We do to program a figure the children would have designed in DT.

French: The children will be learning new vocabulary and developing their conversational skills by being able to greet others, introduce themselves, explain how they feel and give some personal information, for example their age.

Art: This term in Art we are learning about the work of Aboriginal artist Emily Kngwarreye. Children will develop an understanding of Aboriginal symbols and know they are used to tell

stories passed down through generations. From this knowledge, we will be experimenting with colour and developing the use of printing methods to create repeated patterns for storytelling.

Music: This term, the children will learn to create rhythmic patterns using their bodies, voices and instruments.

P.E: During the Autumn term our PE focus will be basketball, health and fitness, dance and gymnastics. This year our PE days will be on **Mondays and Thursdays** and although these are our allocated days, timetables can sometimes be subject to change, so children should have their PE kits in school at all times. You are welcome to leave the PE kits in school until half term, when we will send them home to be washed. They only wear them for a couple of hours a week, and leaving them in school will reduce the risk of forgetting them on a Monday morning. **PE kits should comprise of white t-shirt, black shorts and trainers in a named bag.** Obviously as the weather becomes more Autumnal, please ensure children have **black long jogging bottoms/leggings and a sweatshirt.** Children with long hair should have it tied back. Children with pierced ears should only wear small studs at school, and these must be removed or covered for PE lessons.

Home Learning: We would like to emphasise the importance of reading with your child, or ensuring that they read independently, every day and record this in their Reading Logs. **Reading Logs should be brought into class every day, together with reading books.** Reading logs will be checked every week. Maths homework and spellings will be set online every Friday. Spellings will be a mixture of words from the statutory Year 3 and 4 spelling list, frequently misspelt words or topic related words. Spellings will be tested on a **Friday**. Children should also be practising their times tables daily. Please revise the 2s, 5s and 10s (up to X12) and begin to learn the 4s.

Trips: We will be visiting Tump 53 Nature reserve on the 16th (3M) and 18th (3MG) of September, (postponed from Summer term), which you will already have information about. Later in the term we hope to visit Lesnes Abbey as part of our Stone Age Topic. We are awaiting confirmation about this, and will let you know as soon as we have more information.

School Trips and Experiences: We will be continuing with the 'pay as you go' method which can be paid for via MCAS. We would be grateful if you could pay for these promptly as soon as you receive the information to ensure we can book the exciting trips, workshops and theatre groups for the rest of the year. The letter is available on our website [Deansfield Primary School - Communication & Letters Home \(compassps.uk\)](https://www.compassps.uk/Deansfield-Primary-School-Communication-&Letters-Home)

School uniform: We would also like to take this opportunity to stress how important it is for all children to wear correct school uniform. A list of the uniform can be found on the school website or via this link [Deansfield Primary School - Uniform \(compassps.uk\)](https://www.compassps.uk/Deansfield-Primary-School-Uniform)

Please remember that **all** school uniform and equipment should be **clearly named** (including lunch boxes and drinks bottles). Please ensure that children bring a book bag or a SMALL rucksack to school to carry books, letters, homework etc. Throughout the year, we will continue to use Google Classroom and text/push notifications via MCAS and email, as our main way of communication to notify you of forthcoming class trips, resources children might need to bring in for lessons, home learning etc, so please check this regularly.

Keeping in touch: We are available at the end of the day for any quick queries you may have, otherwise please contact us via **Google Classroom**. We will respond within three working days. If your matter is urgent, please email the school office at deansfield@compassps.uk.

We hope that you find this information useful, but should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to speak to us or contact us via Google Classroom and we will respond as soon as possible.

Mrs Gould, Mrs Millar and Miss Miller
