

Year 3 Newsletter March 2024

Year 3 have had a really great half term. The children have been totally engaged with our Science this term, learning all about plants. It's been great fun growing pea seeds in the classrooms and we have enjoyed watching them germinate and begin to sprout in different conditions. To compliment this topic, we had a fantastic trip to Wisley Gardens, more of which you can read about below.

The Year 3 team wanted to pass on a thank you to all of the parents for supporting your children for their first school trip with us at Horsell. The children were so excited and prepared with everything they needed for our day out! An extra thank you also goes to our parent volunteers that joined us on this trip. Your support was invaluable and it made the trip run very smoothly.

In maths, the children got to grips with fractions and measurement. We will be continuing our fractions unit after Easter, which highlights the importance of good multiplication tables knowledge, so please keep practicing Times Table Rockstars each week.

In writing, we enjoyed writing a narrative set in Ancient China, based on the book 'The Magic Paintbrush'. We have also been writing a set of instructions to help the reader to grow a strong mind, based on the book 'My Strong Mind'. The Year 3 team have been thrilled with the quality of writing and descriptive vocabulary the children are now producing.

We wish everyone a restful Easter and we look forward to having you back to school in April.

Miss Withers and the year 3 team.

A few upcoming additions to our timetables:

Forest school

Elm and Oak class have their forest school sessions next term. These will take place on a Thursday afternoon over 2 weeks. Half of the class will take part on one day, whilst the other half will do cooking with the class teacher. They will swap over the next week.

Elm: 18th and 25th April

Oak: 2nd and 9th May

The children will need to bring old clothes in to school to change in to, that they do not mind getting dirty! You will receive an email to let you know what day your child is doing forest school. Please check your emails or our website for more detailed information on what your children need to bring.

Swimming catch up

Oak class will be swimming on Wednesday afternoons after Easter. These are catch up sessions, due to the pool being closed in Autumn 1. Therefore, please send swimming kits in on Wednesdays. Children in Oak may also wear PE kits to school on this day.

Ash class will be swimming next term on Friday afternoons as part of the usual PE rotation.

Oak DT day

On the first week back, Oak class will have a DT day to complete our Pneumatic toys topic. Over the Easter break, please collect some cardboard boxes with an attached lid (e.g. egg boxes or tea bag boxes work well). The children will need these to create their moving toys.



Communication.

If you would like to contact your child's class teacher, please e-mail:

Oak - Miss Withers l.withers@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Ash - Mrs Abbott e.abbott@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Elm - Mrs Miller s.miller@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Year 3 trip to Wisley Gardens

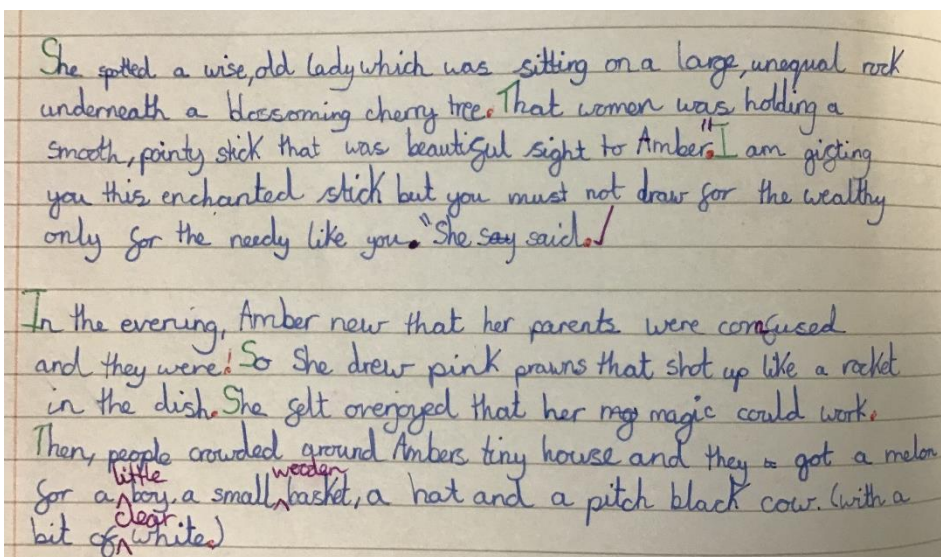
The children had a great time at Wisley earlier in the month. The children enjoyed seeing the glass house and the Hilltop Learning Centre. They also enjoyed workshops where they could study different seeds and had the opportunity to plant some seeds themselves. We even helped to pollinate some flowers using our fingers! Their behaviour was fantastic and they were all a credit to the school.



WOW Work!

Every year group newsletter this year will include a piece of writing published from a child in our year group. It is a great way to showcase what we have been doing in school but also allow the children to see that their writing can have an audience.

This half term's work is by Izzy in Oak. This narrative was based on the book 'The Magic Paintbrush' and Izzy has demonstrated excellent vocabulary choices, to paint a picture for the reader.



Summer 1 skills – Friday afternoons

Oak- PE with Complete Coaching. Oak class will also have their swimming catch up sessions (missed from Autumn 1) on Wednesday afternoons.

Ash- Skills with Mrs Rowley (maths, handwriting, writing, times tables) and swimming with Mrs Tapley

Elm- PE with Mr Coles

Year 3 learning

This half term the children have been busy working on a range of topics.

Geography: We have been learning about climates in our topic 'Who lives in Antarctica?'. We have learnt about how to use longitude and latitude, to find a specific location on the globe. We have discussed the polar climate of Antarctica and why people do not permanently live there. We wrote postcards to a friend or family member, pretending to be a tourist or researcher in Antarctica.

French: We have learnt lots of playground games this term, to help us to learn how to count in French, as well as spell and read numbers up to 12.

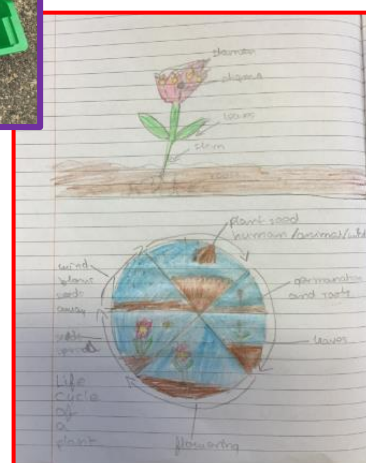
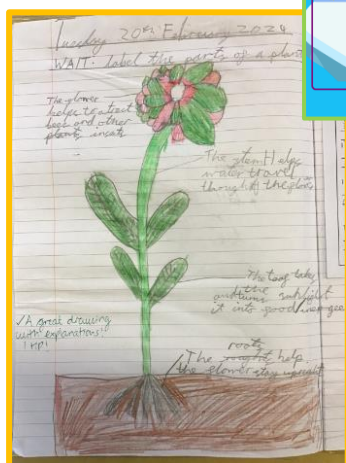
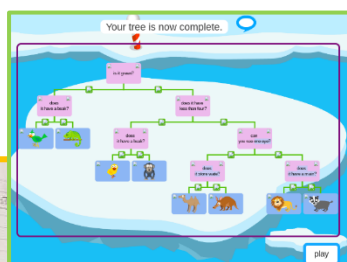
Computing: On the chromebooks, we used a website to help us to create our own branching databases. We discussed the effect of closed questions to split objects in to categories, to reach an end product.

PSHE: Our topic this term has been 'Healthy me' and we have discussed how to keep our bodies and minds healthy through a balanced diet and exercise.

Science: We have focused on our topic of 'plants' this term in lots of our learning. We planted pea seeds in our classrooms under different conditions (e.g. no water, no light, no soil etc) to see how plants grow most effectively. We also learnt about the parts of a flowering plant, how plants are pollinated and the life cycle of a plant.

RE: Our big question this term has been 'What is the bible's big story and why is it like treasure for Christians?'. We discussed that the Bible is one book which includes many stories, but the Bible itself is also one big story, all about God and Jesus.

PE: We have started our new PE rotation this term, so the classes took part in dance, dodgeball and athletics.



Summer 1 topics

Next term, Year 3 will be looking forward to learning the following topics:

- Maths: Fractions B (adding and subtracting fractions, finding fractions of an amount) and Money (pounds, pence, finding change).
- Geography: Why are rainforests important to us?
- Music: Pentatonic Melodies and Composition
- PSHE: Relationships
- RE: JUDAISM: What are important times for Jewish people?
- Science: Light

Don't forget, in the Year 3 section of our school website, you can view our knowledge organisers that we use in our afternoon lessons, that outline the key learning that will take place.

Diary Dates

March	28th March: Last day of term (early finish) and Snapshot reports out and PTA Doughnut sale
April	15th April: Children return to school 16th April: Parents' Evening after school 17th April: Parents' Evening after school 18th and 25th April: Elm forest school/ cookery in the afternoon. 19th April: PTA bags to school collection w/c 22nd April: Book fair 27th April: PTA Good as new sale
May	1st May: Whole school photo 2nd and 9th May: Oak forest school/ cookery in the afternoon. 3rd May: Elm class assembly (AM) 6th May: Bank holiday 10th May: Ash class assembly (AM) 21st May: Music Concert (evening, time to be confirmed) 24th May: Last day of half term
June	3rd June: Return to school