



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome to Summer Term 1 in Year 3 at Newhall Junior School. We hope that your family had a wonderful Easter break and we look forward to working with the children for their final term in Year 3.

This half term, we are excited to be working with the Magic Attic, a Swadlincote-based history archive, as part of our local history study. We are also taking the children on a walk in the local area on Wednesday 15th April – please ensure children wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Finally, we are excited to be returning to **Calke Abbey on Wednesday 29th April** to highlight the importance of local history. Please ensure you can have given permission via Beehive and we would be grateful should you wish to pay a voluntary contribution to support in funding the trip.

Curriculum

This term we will be considering 'Why is local history important?' in History and we will be exploring 'What Plants Need' in Science. We will be exploring desktop publishing in Computing, as the children learn to create and modify images, text and page layouts. We will be exploring building positive, healthy relationships in PHSE and we will ask 'What do some deities tell Sanatanis about God?' in RE. We will continue with the Lionheart Character Awards and play Tennis as our PE topics and the children will be constructing a castle in DT. In Maths, we will be focusing on fractions, before focusing on money and time. In writing, we will be writing a story opening and a diary entry based on 'The Wild Robot' by Peter Brown.

A long-term plan and a curriculum map are available on the school website, under the 'curriculum' tab. These documents will provide more detail on the curriculum here at Newhall Junior School.

Communication

At Newhall Junior School, we believe that strong communication between home and school is essential to supporting your child's success. To help ensure that information is shared clearly and concerns are addressed promptly, we follow a structured communication plan.

This plan outlines the key channels through which parents and carers can connect with the school. Your child's class teacher is always your first point of contact. They know your child best and are well-placed to support their learning and well-being. We are committed to working in partnership with you to create the best possible experience for your child. The Communication Plan is attached.

Homework and Spellings

A reminder that children should be accessing Times Tables Rockstars and Spelling Shed (please see your child's reading diary for their login details) 4 times per week. This will continue to be monitored



**NEWHALL
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Executive Headteacher Robert Prior
Head of School Clare Weaver

by your child's class teacher. Spelling Tests will be completed on a **Monday** afternoon, with new spellings given out afterwards.

Lost Property

To cut down on the amount of lost property each term, please could you ensure all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled. This includes uniform, coats, lunch boxes and water bottles.

Reading

Your child is encouraged to bring their reading book home each day, along with their reading diary. Please set aside time at home for your child to read quietly or to an adult. Reading at home, when it is a regular habit, has a remarkable impact on reading progress. We ask that children read at least 4 times per week at home and that this is evidenced in their reading diary by an adult.

If you have any issues, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully,

The Year 3 Team





Year 3 Unit Five Curriculum Map



Maths

We will be focus on fractions before moving onto money and time. We will explore adding and subtracting fractions, before learning to find a fraction of an amount. The children will learn how to convert pounds and pence, as well as tackling money problems. Finally, children will learn to tell the time to the minute.

Vocabulary: fraction, numerator, denominator, partition, pounds, pence, analogue, digital, minutes, seconds

Science

What Plants Need

We will explore the requirements of plants for life and growth and learn that these vary from plant to plant. Children will identify and describe the functions of different parts of a flowering plant. We will investigate the amount of water needed to help a plant grow well, before comparing how well grass seeds grow with more or less space.

Vocabulary: nutrients, transportation, anchor, energy, growth, seeding, photosynthesis, chlorophyll, oxygen.

RE

What do some deities tell Sanatanis about God?

We will be learning about a selection of different deities (Ganesha, Lakshmi and Brahman) and explore the belief that Sanatanis believe that Brahman is one supreme deity with different aspects. Children will explain why these deities are important to Sanatanis.

Vocabulary: Brahma, aspects, avatar, reflections, Ganesha, Deity, Lakshmi, Trimurti, Supreme.

PE

Lionheart Character Awards and Tennis

In our LCA sessions, we will develop our skills of resilience, teamwork and resourcefulness. In tennis, we will explore different techniques of striking the ball, including forehand and backhand.

Vocabulary: balance, agility, stamina, movement, volley, serve, forehand, backhand.



Reading

We will be learning to develop our reading skills across different text types, including fiction, non-fiction and poetry. We will develop our oracy skills through classroom-based discussion. We will build on and develop our inference, retrieval, prediction, language understanding and summarising skills.

Vocabulary: retrieval, inference, predict, summarise, decoding, fluency, structure, root word, prefix, suffix.

D.T.

Structures: Designing a Castle

We will learn to design, draw and create a castle that includes common features of a castle, such as turrets, towers and gatehouses. Children will recognise that a castle is formed of 3D shapes and develop their skills to build a complex structure from simple geometric shapes.

Vocabulary: turret, tower, moat, 3-dimensional, net, design, façade, structure, stable.

French

Numbers to 31, Months and Classroom Instructions

We will be revisiting numbers, recapping numbers to 20 before moving onto numbers to 31. We will learn the months of the year and learn classroom instructions.

Computing

Desktop Publishing

We will be learning to create documents and modify text, images and layouts for a purpose. We will use desktop publishing software and consider how choices of font, colour and size can improve documents. Children will collate these skills in designing their template for a magazine cover.

Vocabulary: text, image, font, template, design, layout, purpose, desktop, publishing.



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Communication at Newhall Junior School



The following plan outlines the communication channels at Newhall Junior School.

Stage 1 – Child's Class Teacher

Please speak to your child's class teacher regarding your concern or question. The class teacher is the best person to speak to first as they know your child so well. They will always endeavour to come back to you as soon as possible. There may be several meetings or conversations that take place at this stage.



Stage 2 – Phase Leaders: Mr Lander (Year 3 & Year 4) or Mr Wibberley (Year 5 and Year 6)

Yourself or the class teacher may decide to move to stage 2. The Phase Leaders are all on the Leadership Team. An appointment or phone call will be arranged either via the school office or through direct contact with the Phase Leader themselves. Please note that our Phase Leaders are also full-time class teachers, but they will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible. There may be several meetings or conversations that take place at this stage.



Stage 3 – Assistant Head of School: Mrs Smith (Inclusion Lead)

If you have spoken to the Phase Leader but would like further support from school, you will be directed to speak to the Assistant Head of School. Alternatively, if your concern is regarding SEND or Inclusion then you may contact the Assistant Head of School directly. An appointment or phone call will be arranged either via the school office or through direct contact with the Assistant Head of School. There may be several meetings or conversations that take place at this stage.



Stage 4 – Head of School: Mrs Weaver

If you have spoken to the Assistant Head of School and your concern or question continues then you will be directed to speak to the Head of School. Please request an appointment with the Head of School by contacting the school office. There may be several meetings or conversations that take place at this stage.

