

Term 3 Newsletter Bumblebee Class

Dear Families,

We hope you had a lovely Christmas! We have lots going on this term with some very interesting enquiries. Should you have any questions or worries, Tiarna or Sam are here to help. For longer conversations, please do send an email to info@somerdaleet.org.uk, and we can arrange a time.

The Year Three team:

Tiarna Lloyd
Class Teacher
Mon, Tues & Wed AM

Sam O'Regan
Class Teacher
Wed PM, Thurs, Fri

Jan Smith
Learning Support Assistant
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri

Enquiry Questions this term:

This term we have two main enquiry questions, one with a History focus and the other with a Science focus.

As Historians we will be exploring "What were the achievements of the Egyptians?"

As Scientists we will be exploring "How do forces work?"

Please see our medium term overview for more information.

Rights Respecting Schools

This term we will focus in particular at these rights:

Article 17 – Access to Information

Article 14 – Freedom of Thought and Religion

Article 30 – Minority culture, language and religion

Teaching and Learning This Term

Our medium term overview is now available on the class page of our website.

[Please click here to view the overview for this term. \(Y3\)](#)

Home Learning

Reading

It is our recommendation that children should be reading daily where possible. The expectation is that children read **a minimum of 4 times a week**.

Spelling

Each child should have a list of their spellings for the whole term, stuck into their spelling books. These books are to come into school every day and are to go home every evening, so the children can practice their spellings at home. Children are expected to log in to Spelling Shed and play the games set as assignments by their teacher. A new spelling list and set of assignments will be set each Monday after followed by a spelling quiz the following Monday in school.

The focus for spelling patterns are found on our medium term overview (see above link). Please follow the link on the overview to see the word lists for each week.

[Spelling Shed Home Use \(For weekly spellings including interactive games\)](#)

[Access Letter Join at home to practice letter formation and spelling. Available on desktop, laptop and tablet.](#)

Maths

For the first half of this term, we will be focusing on Multiplication and Division. The second half of the term, we will be exploring Length and Perimeter.

Children are expected to practise key number facts at home regularly.

In Key Stage 2, the expectation is that children practise their time tables at home. In Year 3 we learn 36 facts, in Year 4 we learn 21 more facts.

Year 3: 2x, 5x and 3x.

Year 4: 4x, 6x, 8x, 7x, 9x, 11x, 12x

[TTRS for Key Stage 2](#)

In upper key stage 2, children should continue to practise these facts to help with automaticity.

Your child has a log-in for Times Table Rock Stars so that they can practise their time tables at home.

The White Rose 1-minute maths app can also be used to practise number facts at home.

<https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths>

White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice. They also have downloadable workbooks that can be used at home.

[Year 3](#)

[Free Downloadable Workbooks for Year 1 – 6](#)

[Busy Things also have some good games for times table recall practice, particularly miner birds.](#)

Other important information/notes for the time ahead

Class Page

You can access information, long term and medium term overviews as well as other resources on the class page on our website.

Reading Records

Please date and sign yellow reading record when your child reads at home. Children reading 4 times or more get a golden ticket for a chance to win a book.

School Clothing Guidance

Please see the [page on our website](#) for more information on appropriate clothing for school.

Library Day

Our Library Day is continue to be on Fridays.

Please ensure your child has their book on these days. Automated emails are sent for overdue books. If you feel a book may be lost or damaged in your care, we ask for a donation to cover the cost of replacement.

PE Day

Our PE days are Mondays and Fridays.

On these days, please ensure your child is wearing a loose-fitting top and shorts/jogging bottoms which allow them full movement of their bodies. Children should also wear suitable footwear such as trainers. Ear studs should be removed or covered with medical tape for health and safety purposes.

Class Assembly Date

Keep the date in your diary! Our class assembly for this academic year is on:

Year 3: Mon 10th Mar – 2.40pm

Please read the whole school newsletters regularly as they include other important dates.

What does my child need to bring into school every day?

- Bookbag with reading record and reading book inside. (Bookbags are then put into children's drawers. If you need a replacement bookbag, contact the office for the price.)
- Filled Water Bottle
- For Year 3 - 6, a piece of fruit or vegetable
- Library book on library days (Fridays)

Healthy Snacks for Playtime

In the Early Years and Key Stage One, the children are provided with a free piece of fruit or vegetable via the Government scheme.

In Key Stage Two, children need to bring a piece of healthy snack for breaktime. This should be a piece of fruit or vegetable.

Ultra processed snacks are high in sugar, even those that are advertised as '1 of your 5 a day'. NHS advice states children aged 7-10 should have no more than 24g of free sugars a day. Due to the processing, reconstituting and reblending of ingredients to create fruit winders, these snacks contain high amounts of free sugars.

For example, Bear Fruit Yoyo, strawberry contains 8g of sugar. This equates to one third of the recommended daily allowance.

For this reason, with consideration to Article 24 (children have the right to healthy food) we ask that these are not brought to school as they are not considered a healthy snack due to the high sugar content. It also creates littering problems with the excess packaging.

Planned Class Educational Visits

We have organised a school trip to Bristol Museum on Tuesday 28th January. A letter with more detail about this was emailed out in December.

On the trip, the children will explore the museum and then take part in a workshop that will complement their learning on Egyptians. During the workshop, children will:

- Hear about the life and work of Amelia Edwards
- Handle real and replica artefacts and match them correctly with places visited by Amelia Edwards during her journey through Egypt in 1878-79
- Learn new and memorable facts about life in ancient Egypt

We will travel by coach and will leave Somerdale at 9.30am, returning to Somerdale at 2.15pm.

Payment for this trip is £14.17 which can be made via Arbor by January 13th. If you would like to volunteer as a helper for this school trip, please email Tiarna, via info@somerdaleet.org.uk

Our second main class trip will be in Term 6 this year. This has already been booked for Thursday 26th June 2025. More information will follow nearer the time.

Many thanks for all your support,

Tiarna and Sam
Class Teachers