

# Year 3 Newsletter



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Junior: Norsey View Drive, Billericay, Essex CM12 0QR  
01277 623217

Infant: Perry Street, Billericay, Essex CM12 0NX  
01277 622821

Headteacher: Ann Robinson

## January 2026

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all! We hope you all had an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas and New Year. The Year 3 teachers and teaching assistants would like to thank you for the Christmas gifts and cards you sent in - your generosity was greatly appreciated.

This newsletter is to outline some of the events happening this term and also to provide you with information about what your child will be learning. We hope that you find it useful.

### English:

In English this term we will be studying a range of different genres, including adventure stories; non-chronological reports; fables and performance poetry. Our stimulus text for Spring 1 is Aesop's Fables and for Spring 2 is Stone Age Boy. As well as studying these different text types, the children will be focusing on the basic skills within their writing, including sentence construction and extension; use of grammar, punctuation and vocabulary; and the presentation of their handwriting. We are also planning a visit to Norsey Woods as a stimulus for children's writing.

### Spelling:

The children will continue to have daily spelling input as well as three, linked handwriting lessons (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday). The children have already been given a new half term spelling list at the end of the Autumn Term. You can find this list on the website if you have mislaid it. The children will need to work on the spellings listed in preparation for their weekly spelling test each Friday. Please continue to support your child with learning the rule as well as the words each week.

### Mathematics:

The children will continue to work in their current Maths sets but changes to these sets may be made as the term progresses if your child's maths teacher feels that this is appropriate for his or her progress. If this affects your child, then you will have been contacted by your child's maths teacher. The children will continue to follow the topics and objectives within the National Primary Framework and from the White Rose Scheme. Your child also needs to continue practising their times tables (both multiplication and division facts) on a regular basis to ensure accuracy and quick recall and they will be tested on this weekly. Don't forget they can keep practising using Times Table Rock Stars and the Daily 10.



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**Science:**

This term the children will be learning about Light, including different sources of light, monitoring our shadows throughout the day and understanding how we can protect ourselves from UV rays. We will then be studying Forces and Magnets in the second half term covering: the different parts of a magnet, testing the strength of magnets and understanding how we can use magnets in everyday life.

**History:**

During History this term our main focus will be on the Stone Age to Iron Age. This is a very exciting topic that the children in previous years have really enjoyed. We will be using the book, 'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura as a stimulus into many topic areas. In addition, we will be visiting Thorndon Park for a Cave Man Day in February. To link with this topic, we will be making our own Stone Age to Iron Age Jewellery in DT.

**RE:**

In RE, we will be covering two units: a philosophy unit and also a theology unit. We will be defining the meaning of philosophy and also exploring how people express commitment to a religion or worldview in different ways.

**Games:**

The children will be learning Netball, Dodgeball, Tag Rugby and Cheer Dance this term. This will continue on Monday afternoons with Winger sports for outdoor PE, and Tuesday morning for 3W, Thursday morning for 3BW and 3M and Friday afternoon for 3P, for indoor PE lessons. Please ensure that your child's PE kit is always in school in case the weather forces us to make timetable changes. As the weather remains cold your child will need a sports jumper and/or tracksuit to wear. The children are required to wear plimsolls for indoor PE activities (with the exception of gymnastics) and trainers for Outdoor Games. If your child wears earrings, then they must be removed for PE/Games activities. If your child has an injury and cannot take part in PE/Games, then a letter from you is required and needs to be given to your child's class teacher.

**Homework:**

In addition to reading, spellings and times table practice the children will be set two pieces of homework a week. One piece will always be Maths, and the other is often Literacy but occasionally topic related. Homework is given out on a Thursday and is due in the following Tuesday.

**Reading:**

Please ensure that your child reads regularly to you and that you sign their reading record book. Reading aloud is an essential skill in not only developing your child's fluency and expression but also aids their understanding of punctuation and what they are reading as it provides opportunities for discussion and questioning. Reading aloud is therefore still important for every child no matter what their ability is.

**Important Dates:**

W/B Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March

- Year 3 Assessment week

- Cave Man Day at Thorndon Park (3BW & 3P)

- Cave Man Day at Thorndon Park (3W & 3M)

- Year 3 'Open Door' Event

- Norsey Woods Visit (am)



It is going to be another busy and fun-filled term. We all look forward to continuing to work with you in order to help your child achieve their full potential.

If you have any queries about this newsletter or any issue concerning your child then please contact the school office to make an appointment to see your child's class teacher or myself. Please can I remind you that appointments do need to be made via the office. If you have any other messages for your child's teacher please do not hesitate to email the Year 3 team: **[bjsyear3@buttsburyprimary.essex.sch.uk](mailto:bjsyear3@buttsburyprimary.essex.sch.uk)**.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S. Barnes  
Year 3 Leader

