

OTTERLY AMAZING OTTERS

YEAR 3



AUTUMN TERM

Dear Parents and Carers,

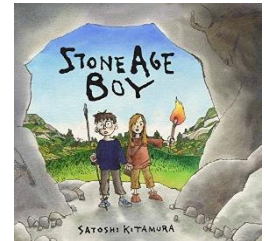
Welcome back to an exciting school year as the children move into Year 3 and become Amazing Otters! We hope you all had a good summer holiday and are looking forward to the busy term ahead.

For the first half term, our focus will be on supporting the children in their return to school with changes to the layout of the day. Each day the children will begin with reading/audio story, exercise (20mins), English, Maths, PSE, and a curriculum area. We will be blocking time during the week for curriculum subjects to ensure coverage and support.

Reading

Reading in school can take many forms and children in Otters class will be reading on their own and as part of a group on a regular basis. A big emphasis is placed on encouraging children to become confident independent readers who can read a wide range of literature and gain a secure understanding of what is being read. The children will then be asked to talk about the book that they have read to an adult.

The most effective way for your child to progress in reading is to read at home as often as possible, ideally every day. It is also important that the children choose a book that they are interested in reading to help enrich their learning. Currently, children will not be bringing home books from school however they will have access to books within school.



Recommended Reads

There are so many lovely books available for children, here is just a few that we recommend. **James and the Giant Peach**, **Matilda**, **The BFG** by Roald Dahl, **Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone** by J.K. Rowling, **Toto The Ninja Cat** by Dermot O'Leary, **The Hodgeheg** by Dick King Smith to name a few. A list of other recommended books will be available on our class page.



We would also like to hear from the children which authors they like to read.

English

We will go on a journey through the Stone Age to the Iron Age in our lessons including our English lessons. We are looking forward to sharing our class books with your children, the first book we will read, enjoy and study is 'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura. This is a picture book that will take us on a journey to the Stone Age to inspire the children's creative thinking as well as informing us about what it was like in the Stone Age. Following on from this book to continue our creative thinking and understanding of the Stone Age we will read 'Stig of the Dump' by Clive King. The children will have the opportunity to imagine being in a cave with a cave man and design their own cave.

Maths

Our focus in Maths will be place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division. Our teaching will include reviewing learning and identifying gaps, teaching new content and challenging children within these areas. There will be daily multiplication quizzes as well as homework based on recapping learning, stretch and challenge.

Curriculum Overview

As Historians, Children will learn about the Stone Age and its significance in the development of the human race. They will investigate what prehistoric Britain was like and compare it to other ages in history, such as the Bronze Age. They will also learn about one of the world's most famous monuments – Stonehenge, as well as creating their own model of Stonehenge.

As Scientists, the children will explore the field of geology identifying, grouping and comparing the rocks that make up the foundations of the Earth. Furthermore, we will ask ourselves what is soil?

In Art and Design, the children will be studying and researching cave paintings and using different techniques to create their own in the style of the 'Stone Age boy'. We will experiment with natural resources, as we are in the Stone Age! We will also look at using warm colours to create a piece of art including Stonehenge.

PE

For this term, Otters will have PE on a Tuesday and Wednesday. Wednesday's session will be with Premier Sports for the first half term. Tuesday's session will be outside with Mrs Warner, where we will focus on games that involve throwing, catching, bouncing, kicking and striking as well as using a variety of games equipment. We will be having PE outside this term, following the government advice, so please ensure that your child has a suitable kit (jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt). Earrings are not to be worn on PE days and long hair needs to be tied back. Finally, as always, please ensure that every item of PE kit and school uniform are clearly named.

Suitable footwear

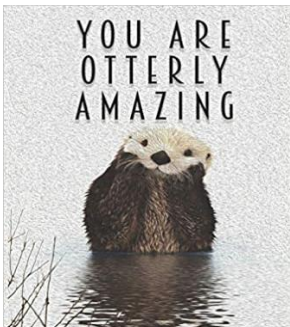
Due to social distancing we are unable to use the playground, so we will be having breaktimes, lunch times and PE lessons on the field. Please can you provide suitable footwear for going outside e.g. wellies, old trainers...



Homework

Each week, your child will be set a comprehension task, a maths flashback task, TTRS and spelling task (Spelling Shed), alongside daily reading. These will be posted on Showbie.

Homework will be set on Thursday to be completed by the following Thursday on Showbie, there will be a marksheet attached for instant feedback.



Final note

We hope that this will be an Otterly wonderful year with the children having exciting, enriching and rewarding lessons. If you have any queries, concerns or questions, please drop us a message on 'Class Dojo'.

Mrs J Warner (Mon-Wed) Mrs P Ratcliffe (Thurs- Fri).