

Year 3 Autumn 2

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	Fiction: The Selfish Unicorn Your child is learning to retell the story of The Selfish Unicorn. They will engage in lots of drama activities and use props to bring the story to life. Following this, they will then create their own stories based on the structure of The Selfish Unicorn. Each day they will practise writing complete sentences with correct punctuation. In Year 3 this will involve using apostrophes for contraction, apostrophes for possession and using powerful verbs to show how a character is feeling. Non fiction This half term we will be focusing on creating an explanation text. The children will be writing an essay titled, 'Why is Alexander the Great so Great?' To succeed they will be taught how to use causal conjunctions to explain their arguments, e.g., because, therefore, hence, ergo, thus, etc.
Writing	While reading with/to your child, ask them questions that challenge their skills of inference. For instance Nelson Handwriting Your child is continuing to write with their 'Perfect Pencil Grip' and 'Posture for Writing'. All Year 3 children have been practising their joined up Nelson handwriting for a full year and have made great progress. You can support your child by ensuring that they sit properly on their chair with their feet on the floor, facing the table with a pencil in their writing hand and their other hand on their work. Please ensure that your child completes their home learning in joined up writing and with a sharp pencil.
Reading	Sounds-Write (Phonics) Splitting polysyllabic words into their syllables (e.g. Py/tha/go/ras) Reading polysyllabic words with fluency and applying them in writing. Spelling common homophones (hear/here, threw/through) and contractions (It's, I've, should've) Writing words with the prefix —dis, —mis, We will also be reading the Enchanted Wood by Enid Blyton as a whole class so core reading skills can be developed. You could support by exposing your child to a range of different reading materials in the real world. For example; reading recipes, following instructions to play a game/make a model, reading an email to/from a
Mathematics	Maths During this half term the children will be exploring a range of methods to add and divide numbers. They will become confident in calculating and using methods to recall facts for the 3, 4 and 8 times tables. They will write and calculate mathematical statements for multiplication and division using the multiplication tables that they know, including for two-digit numbers times one-digit numbers, using mental and progressing to formal written methods. In addition, they will experience solving problems, including missing number problems, involving multiplication and division, including positive integer scaling problems and correspondence problems in which n objects are connected to m objects. You could support at home by asking your child questions about their maths learning. For example, helping them to complete written calculations and asking them to explain the steps that they are taking in order to complete them. Also, make sure they learn their times tables!
Core Knowledge	Science — The children will be learning about insects — zooming in on their physical make-up, life cycles and place in the world. History— The children will continue to study the ancient Greeks. Specifically they will look at Socrates, Plato, Aristotle and Alexander the Great. Art — We will be studying landscape, still life, and mythological paintings through the work of John Constable, Paul Cezanne and Antonio del Pollaiuolo and creating our own versions of these types of work. You could support at home by asking your children about their learning in these areas. Any additional learning from books or the internet in any of these areas would support the learning in the classroom.
Character	Your child is learning about empathy and perspective, humour and fairness. Whilst looking at these virtues we will explore real life contexts that the children might find themselves in and how we could approach these situations.

	These virtues will be embedded through discussion and stories as well as activities rooted in reality that will bring the learning to life! You can support your child by discussing the world around you, stories you read and the things that you see and hear. It would be great for you to share your own experiences of when you have been brave.
Music	Your child will continue to learn the violin or viola. Ensure your child practices for ten minutes each day — building it into their daily routine.
P.E. and Dance	This half term Year 3 children will learn how to play hockey. They will build upon their learning from last term and refine their sense of space so they successfully invade opposition territory — thinking about effective team work to do so. Please ensure you child brings their PE kit on a Monday and leaves it in school. If they go home with their PE kit on, ensure that it is brought back!