



BISHOPS ITCHINGTON  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

PART OF STOWE VALLEY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## Windsor Class Newsletter Autumn Term 2023

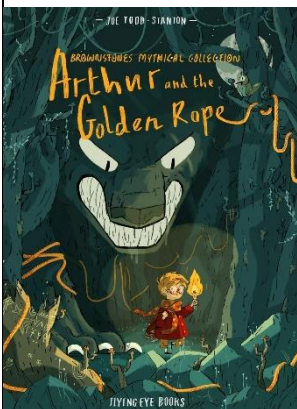
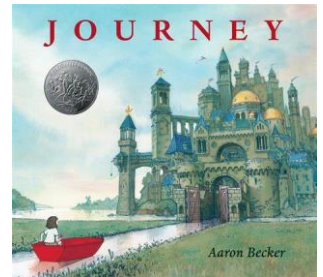
Welcome everybody to Windsor class (Year 3). I am really looking forward to teaching your children this academic year. In this first term we will be learning about many different topics. Please read on to discover all the great things we will be covering!

### Reading

This term our class text will be *Journey* by Aaron Becker and *Arthur and the Golden Rope* by Todd Stanton.

The children will be learning a variety of skills through reading. They will be learning how to familiarise themselves with new vocabulary, infer from text using clues, make predictions based on pictures and evidence in the text.

Retrieve by reading information and choosing the relevant parts that a question is asking, explaining in detail what is happening and why, retrieving information by reading the text and summarising text by picking out the most important and exciting information.



Children are expected to be reading every day at home. It is important parents or older siblings can ask questions to the children about the book that they are reading such as: Who are the characters? What is happening now? Why does a certain character feel this way? What do you think will happen next? It is not about how much the children read, it is about how much they understand. Reading for roughly 15-20 minutes a day and then being asked comprehension questions is ideal. Children will be receiving reading records which will be checked every Monday morning, please can parents sign these and perhaps comment how your child has read.

There will be many fun opportunities within reading this term. All children will have the chance to read to the rest of the class. We will be practising reading skills every day. Every week there will be paired reading where Windsor class will be reading with Buckingham.

### English – Writing, handwriting, grammar, punctuation, and spelling

We follow the National Curriculum for the delivery of skills in writing, grammar, punctuation and spelling. The books that we will be looking at this term will allow the children to learn and apply these skills.

Children will be practising their handwriting on a weekly basis, learning how to join the letters and to ensure their writing is legible. Through English children will learn how to write non-chronological reports, newspaper reports, character descriptions, setting descriptions, diary entries and some forms of poetry.

Our English lessons will incorporate our class text and the writing will cover fiction and non-fiction. This will give children the opportunity to write imaginatively using different resources such as

pictures and video clips. It will also allow children to write from a non-fictional point of view, by writing biographies and studying history.

We use the Spelling Shed spelling scheme at Bishops Itchington and children will get spellings every Friday, they are expected to practise them at home and then bring their spelling journal back into school for the Wednesday where they will be tested.

Grammar will be taught alongside English lessons including adjectives, conjunctions, paragraphs, expanded noun phrases and inverted commas. These skills will enhance the children's writing and make it more interesting and expansive.

## *Maths*

Following the White Rose scheme of work Year 3 will focus on the following units during the Autumn term:

**Number: Place Value**

**Number: Addition and Subtraction**

**Number: Multiplication and Division**

To support your child at home please get them to practice their times tables up to 12. Children in Year 3 need to begin to know all their times tables up to 12 x 12 and the division facts in readiness for year 4. Children will have access to TT Rockstars to learn their tables, whilst there are plenty of other websites such as topmarks.com and timestables.me.

## *Science*

This half-term children will be learning about Rocks and Fossils. They will be taught to compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties. Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock. Recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter. We will explore different kinds of rocks and soils, particularly in the local environment and we will be working scientifically to investigate the properties and uses of different rocks.



## *Other Curriculum Subjects*

**Topic:** Our topic this term is all about Mountains and Survival. Children will learn about how to survive in a mountainous region. They will learn about what things they will need and how they would survive. They will also learn about Sir Edmund Hillary and compare the evidence from the past to now. They will go on to learn about the influence and achievements of other throughout history. Through learning about mountains children will learn about the different mountain ranges across the world and where they are located. They will learn about how mountains are formed physically and how humans use them.

**RE:** During this term the children will be learning about the origins of the Hindu religion and the deities. They will move onto learning about Hindu festivals and compare these to Christianity.

**PSHE:** During this first half-term children will be learning about protective behaviours. The rights that all children have, safe and unsafe feelings. About what happens when you get your early warning signs and what you can do and putting adults on a network whom you can trust to tell them when you get your early warning signs.

**PE:** Currently children have PE on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, children are getting changed at school, so it is important they have what they need on each day. This Term we are doing Hockey, Gymnastics, Tag Rugby and Bench Ball.

**Art & Design:** Children will be learning about mountain art and looking at different artists and techniques. They will be using their sketchbooks and learning how to use water colours to paint their own landscape on the Yellow Land.

**Design & Technology:** During D&T we will be creating free-Standing Structures. We will create photo frames with a Christmas twist. The children will understand which way structures can be made stable and understand how to stiffen materials.

**Music:** Children will be listening to different pieces of music and then discussing the mood of it. They will identify different instruments being used and learn about those groups. They will also get the opportunity to play some instruments. During the term we will be focusing on musicals and a classical piece, Hall of the Mountain King by Edvard Grieg.

**Computing:** Children will be recapping how to code using purple mash this half-term, they will be creating their own settings, characters and learn how to use the different functionalities they 2code provides.

### *Homework*

In year 3 we ask that the children read to an adult daily whilst asking those important questions as mentioned above. We also encourage the children to use the Timestable Rockstars app daily in order to practice their times tables. Every Friday a spelling list will be sent home and you are encouraged to work with your child to learn these ready to be tested on a Friday.

*We do hope that your child enjoys their first term of this academic year with us. If you do have any worries or concerns, please feel free to speak to one of us quickly, about any matter, however small.*

*Mr. Hyde and Mrs. Sparkes*