

**Year 3**

Hello and welcome back to Year 3! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and are ready to continue working hard this term.

We will begin with an exciting geography topic all about settlements and biomes, which will lead us into Spring 2 as we prepare for a school trip to RHS Wisley for a Plant Hunter’s Workshop. In English, our focus texts will be *Escape from Pompeii* by Christine Balit, followed by *The Pied Piper of Hamelin* by Michael Morpurgo. In Reading, we will be exploring volcanoes and other earth-shattering events through a range of engaging non-fiction texts and visuals.

In Spring 2, we will also be taking part in outdoor learning, which will include a range of exciting forest activities such as exploring natural habitats, building shelters, and developing teamwork skills. We are really looking forward to all the learning ahead!

Many thanks for your support  
**Mrs McHugh & Mrs Smith**

**Curriculum Information**

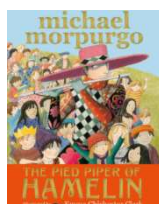
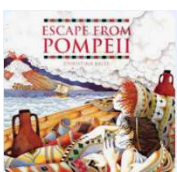
**English**

This term in English, we will be exploring different genres of writing including stories and poems.

In English, we will be reading: *Escape from Pompeii* by Christine Balit to explore the features of an explanation text.

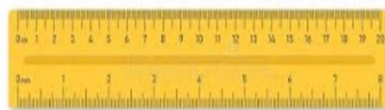
We will be using the book *The Pied Piper of Hamelin* to explore myths and legends to then write our own version!

In Reading, we will be looking at: ‘Earth Shattering Events’ by Robin Jacobs to learn about the natural world.



**Maths**

In maths, we will learn methods for multiplying and dividing two digit numbers by one digit numbers. We will then look at length, learning to measure in millimetres and how to calculate perimeters. We will move onto fractions, where we will compare and order unit and non-unit fractions. Finally, we will look at mass and capacity where we will learn to measure in millilitres and kilograms.



**Science**

In science we will be learning about rocks and what they are and exploring the formation of rocks. We will carry out experiments and investigations around rocks, particularly fossils.



We will then be moving onto discovering forces and magnets. We will be looking at how things move, learning about magnetic poles and the meaning of attract and repel.

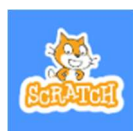


**History/Geography**

In geography we will be learning about different types of settlements, including hamlets, villages, towns, and cities. We will explore what settlements are and how they develop. Then, we will explore biomes, learning what they are, where they are found around the world, and why each biome is different. We will also discuss why biomes are important and how they meet the needs of the plants, animals, and people who live there.

**Computing**

In computing we will be learning about the concept of sequencing in programming through Scratch. The final project is to make a representation of a piano. The unit is paced to focus on all aspects of sequences.










**Art & DT**

In art we will be looking at still life, exploring how to observe objects carefully and represent them accurately.

In DT we are going to be looking at pneumatic toys, using air to make an object move. We will be able to draw diagrams to show their design, create design criteria and assemble a pneumatic toy which will hold the pneumatic mechanism inside.





<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RE</b></p> <p>This term in R.E. we will be exploring where ideas about right and wrong come from. We will begin by looking at Christianity, learning about its beliefs and where Christian ideas of morality originate. After that, we will move on to Islam, exploring what Muslims believe about God and the sources of these beliefs.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; gap: 20px;">   </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PE/Outdoor Learning</b></p> <p>In PE, we will begin by looking at action plans, focusing on hand signals and common movements, and putting these skills into practice during different activities. We will also look at teamwork and fairness. Later in the term, we will move on to rugby, learning how to pass the ball, work together effectively, and play safely.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Year 3 will do Outdoor Learning in Spring 2.</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PSHE</b></p> <p>This term in Jigsaw PSHE, we will be starting by focusing on ‘Dreams and Goals’. We will talk about our own goals, what we hope to achieve, and the steps we can take to reach them. We will also explore the emotions that come with working towards our ambitions. In Spring 2, we will continue with the theme ‘Healthy Me’, learning about how to keep our bodies and minds healthy and make positive choices.</p> 
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Spanish</b></p> <p>This term in Spanish, we will be learning the ten most common musical instruments and will be introduced to the high-frequency verb “I play” in the first-person singular. After this, we will move on to learning and talking about common shapes in Spanish.</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Music</b></p> <p>This term in Music, we will be composing our own melodies using our imagination and creativity. After that, we will explore different musical styles from around the world, immersing ourselves in global music and discovering the patterns and songs that make each style unique.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>
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**Home Learning**

At Meadow Park Academy, we believe that home learning can provide valuable opportunities to consolidate and practice learning.

We expect all children in Year 3 to complete the following weekly:

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Reading</b></p> <p>The children will be sent home with a reading book matching their phonological knowledge so they can continue to practice their learning at home or a free choice book for those who can decode.</p> <p>They are expected to read 5 times per week.</p> <p>A note of this should be put in their lovely new planners!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Spelling Shed</b></p> <p>As a school, we have subscribed to Spelling Shed, an incredible app that allows children to practice their spellings in a fun and interactive way. In Year 3, they are expected to complete 20 minutes per week.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Logins will be stuck in children’s planners.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/">https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Times Table Rockstars</b></p> <p>Times Table Rockstars is a wonderful program which allows children to battle and play games to win tokens. All they have to do, is answer their times tables!</p> <p>In Year 3, they are expected to complete 20 minutes per week.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Logins will be stuck in children’s planners.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="https://ttrackstars.com/">https://ttrackstars.com/</a></p>
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**If you are struggling to access any of this homework, please speak to your child’s class teacher about alternative arrangements.**



**Other information**

**School Uniform**

All children should come to school in the correct school uniform, which is:

- Meadow Park sweatshirt
- Plain white polo shirt
- Plain grey or white socks
- Grey trousers
- Grey skirt
- Black, sensible shoes (no heels)



**PE Kit**

Children must come to school wearing their PE kits on their PE days. Our PE day is:

**Thursday**

Our PE uniform is:

- Meadow Park black shorts
- Meadow Park emerald green T shirt
- Plimsolls, trainers or bare feet (for indoor PE)
- Trainers with good grip and support for outside sport (different to indoor trainers)
- Plain grey or black tracksuit bottoms and top (optional)
- Hairband to tie long hair back

**Any issues?**

In the first instance, please speak with the class teacher at the end of the day. If you are unable to be there at collection, please contact the school office to arrange a time to meet with the teacher.

If you are still unsatisfied, please arrange a meeting with the phase leader.

Acorns, Cherry, Apple, Maple – **Mrs Pack**  
Beech, Sycamore, Elm, Chestnut, Ash, Holly,  
Hazel, Oak – **Ms Geary**

If after that meeting, you continue to be unhappy with the resolution, please contact the school office to make an appointment with **Ms Holehouse, Ms Voisey or Ms Drysdale.**

If you need to discuss a specific SEND concern, please speak to our SENDCo, **Mrs Mughal.**

**Lunchtime**

Our delicious lunches are provided by Educatering, formally known as Crumbs.



Lunches must be ordered by **midnight on Tuesday**, to ensure that your child has lunches for the **following** week. As the lunches are cooked to order, there are usually no spare lunches.

You can place your lunch orders through MCAS.



**Snacks and Water Bottles**

Please make sure your child has a clearly labelled water bottle in school, so that they can stay hydrated.

We also welcome the children to bring in a healthy, nut free snack to enjoy at playtime.



**Key Dates for your diary**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – Staff INSET day

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – Children return to school**

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – Reception Open Morning

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – Winter Safety Assembly

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – Breakfast Workshops for Year 5

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – Breakfast Workshops for Year 5

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Year 5 Fire Safety Session

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Parents Evening

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Online Safety Workshops

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Parents Evening

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Last Day of Half Term

**HALF TERM – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 – Children return to school

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Year 2 to Oxford Ashmolean Museum

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – World Book Day

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Year 3 to RHS Wisley

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Year 4 to Hampton Court Palace

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – International ‘Read to Me’ Day

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Red Nose Day

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Year 1 to Winsor Castle

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Acorns to Brooklands Museum

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026 & Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Year 3 & 4 performances

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Easter Egg Hunt

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Clubs end

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – End of Spring Term – Finish at 1:30pm**

A reminder that in the Summer Term, on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2026**, Meadow Park Academy will be **closed for all children, apart from Year 6**, as we are being used as a Polling Station.