

# Drifffield Junior School



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Dear Parents/Carers

Please find below information from our year leaders regarding the spring term curriculum which I hope is useful to you. Thank you for your continued support for the school and please do contact us should you have any concerns or queries.

## Year 3

The spring term promises to be an exciting and busy one.

Our English works involves reading and writing a variety of different letters. We will also complete some exciting writing as time travellers! Work in maths will continue to focus on the four rules of number and in particular, multiplication and division.

In computing, the children will learn how to control figures on screen using the Alice programming software package. In science, our children will become 'geologists'. Not only will they study different types of rocks and fossils but they will be given the opportunity to complete experiments based around this topic. In art, we will study the artists Klee and Gaudi and produce a range of mixed media work.

In outdoor PE, children will learn tag rugby and, whenever possible, this will take place outdoors so please ensure that your child brings warm outdoor clothing: tracksuit bottoms or leggings and a sweatshirt. In our indoor PE lessons, we will focus on gymnastics. PE times for the different classes can be found below.

	Indoor PE	Outdoor PE
<b>3H</b>	Wednesday	Friday
<b>3S</b>	Friday	Thursday
<b>3W</b>	Friday	Tuesday
<b>3A</b>	Friday	Tuesday

Reading to an adult continues to be an extremely important aspect of home learning. We aim for each child to complete three home reads per week; we thank you for support with this.

The class with the most reads each week will also be rewarded with 5 minutes extra playtime so please remember to sign your child's home reading record book every time they read to you.

All year 3 teachers are delighted with the attitude of all the children towards completing their maths homework on Mathletics and we would like to thank you very much for your support in this area. Maths homework will continue to be set on Fridays. If you are having any difficulties in accessing



Mathletics at home, please let your child's class teacher know and we will do our absolute best to resolve any issues. Times Table Rock Stars also continues to be popular and is a great resource for children to use at home to learn their times tables in an engaging way. This term we will be focusing on the three and six times tables.

Spellings will continue to be assessed at the start of spelling lessons (based on the previous week's spelling rule). We will also be holding our 'Spelling Bees' on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January. Please see your child's planner for helpful hints and tips on how to support your child with their learning at home.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs R Dixon  
Year 3 Leader and Deputy Head

## **Year 4**

Happy New Year from the Year 4 team!

The spring term may be shorter than the Autumn one, but will be a very busy one indeed. Over the course of the term Year 4 are going to be learning about the tale of Beowulf. We will spend time studying the story and the surrounding history that is linked to it. The children will learn about invaders and settlers in England, both Anglo-Saxon and Viking. As part of this, we will engage with a range of fiction and non-fiction texts, as we teach historical skills in analysing sources and addressing historical stereotypes. There will also be time to develop map reading skills further as we track where the invaders came from, and where they ultimately settled down. We also learn about the ongoing struggle for power in England over the period. This is a fascinating topic to study locally, as the evidence of Viking settlements is all around us. To help bring this topic to life, we will be visiting Jorvik and Dig in York (more details to follow soon). We also have some fantastic artwork planned, with the children learning about the seascapes of Mary Spears and Katsushika Hokusai, then creating their own using mono-printing and collage.

During maths lessons we will be working on the formal methods of multiplication and division. This term the targeted times tables are the 6 and 9 times tables. Those keen on Times Tables Rockstars have already noticed the change! The children will continue to develop their computing skills, and this term we will look at how to search safely and efficiently, while also learning how search engines such as Google actually work. As always, online safety is taught in school, but I would encourage all parents to check the resources available on our website as well. Drumming and percussion lessons will continue during the spring term, as we get ever closer to our summer performance. At the end of the Easter term, Year 4 will be on stage performing their Easter Assembly to parents - keep an eye on the app for time and dates.

In outdoor PE children will learn tag rugby and, whenever possible, this will take place outdoors so please ensure that your child brings warm outdoor clothing: tracksuit bottoms or leggings and a sweatshirt. Indoor PE this term is gymnastics, and will be taught by gymnastics specialists.

	<b>Indoor PE</b>	<b>Outdoor PE</b>
<b>4T</b>	Thursday	Tuesday
<b>4S</b>	Thursday	Wednesday
<b>4W</b>	Thursday	Wednesday
<b>4G</b>	Thursday	Friday

As always, classes are looking to be competitive with the weekly home reads competition, and we greatly appreciate your ongoing support in this. The class with the most reads each week gains an extra 5 minutes of play, and is a much sought after prize.

Thank you for your continuing support,  
Mr C Tarrant  
Year 4 Leader

## **Year 5**

Happy New Year to you all.

All work this term will focus around two main themes: The Force of the Beast and The Power of the Greeks. In the first half term the children will read a number of Greek myths and study a variety of mythical beasts which will enable them to design and write about their own mythical creature. In PE the children will choreograph a dance to retell the myth of Theseus and the Minotaur. Each class will also dramatise a Greek Myth to perform to the rest of the Year group. In science, the children will learn about Forces while their DT task will be to design and make bread. In the second half of the term, children will consider what made the Greeks such a powerful and successful nation.

The teachers in Year 5 have been delighted with the attitude of all the children towards completing and handing in their maths homework folders and we would like to thank you very much for your help with this. Homework will continue to be set on a Friday to be handed in by the following Wednesday. Reading, practising spellings and learning multiplication tables also continue to play an important part in our homework programme and should be practised regularly. Please continue to encourage your children to read to an adult at home. Currently 5N are the most enthusiastic home readers and have won the extra five minutes playtime reward more than the other Year 5 classes; well done to 5N but it would be great to see another class challenge them for the title this term.

While children need to know all their tables and division facts, this term we will consolidate knowledge of the 4, 7, 8 and 11 times tables and the corresponding division facts. Children need to have instant recall of all of these facts; frequently chanting multiplication tables at home (or in the car) is the best way to learn as well as logging on to TT Rock Stars.

A polite reminder that your child should have their PE kits in school every week for their allocated sessions. This includes suitable footwear and warm clothing for outdoor sessions.

5B	Monday & Wednesday
5By	Monday & Tuesday
5I	Monday & Tuesday
5N	Monday & Wednesday
5W	Monday & Tuesday

Another busy term awaits but as always we greatly appreciate your continued support.

Mrs J Broadbent  
Year 5 Leader

## **Year 6**

What an exciting, jam packed term we have ahead of us!

This term is very important in year 6 in the run up to their tests in May. We will be doing lots of work with the children to ensure they are well prepared for their tests. This will include additional sessions of English and maths and additional homework. Please support your child with their homework and, if you have any concerns or questions about the tests or their work, please get in touch with your child's teacher.

Despite all the hard work we will be doing, we will make sure we have lots of fun as well. Our new history topic is about Victorian Driffield which will include a Victorian day and a tour of Driffield. Our **Victorian morning** will take place on **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January** and we (staff included) dress as Victorians and travel back in time to find out what a morning in our school would have been like 150 years ago! Please don't buy costumes especially for this event, as hopefully you'll be able to find everything at home. Boys may need shorts, shirts and knee length socks and girls need dark dresses, skirts or pinafores. Further details will be sent home very shortly. Our tour of Driffield is very interesting; children get to explore their town and learn about our local history. We would love to hear from families or friends who have any knowledge of, or links to, life in Driffield during the 1800s.

Of course we also have our eagerly anticipated trip to Dobroyd Castle on the 11th – 13th March. We are going to hold a **parents' meeting at 6pm on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January** which will let you know all the important information you need and give you opportunity to ask any questions. Children who aren't attending the residential trip will still be taught by staff within school.

This term, outdoor PE will be tag rugby and netball; indoor PE will be mix of different sports. We have had a few children who have not had their PE kit with them. It is important children have trainers and warm clothing for outdoor PE.

	<b>Indoor PE</b>	<b>Outdoor PE</b>
<b>6B</b>	Tuesday	Thursday
<b>6C</b>	Monday	Thursday
<b>6HR</b>	Tuesday	Friday
<b>6M</b>	Wednesday	Tuesday

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs H Mudd  
Year 6 Leader