

Class Three Newsletter

Welcome back all our Year 3 and Year 4 children. We hope that you all had an enjoyable Christmas and that you join us refreshed and ready to begin the Spring term in 2014.

This newsletter will give you a brief outline of what we will be up to in class this term but, as always, if there is anything else you need to know just come and ask. After school is the best time to catch us as mornings can be a little bit busy!

What will we be learning about this term?

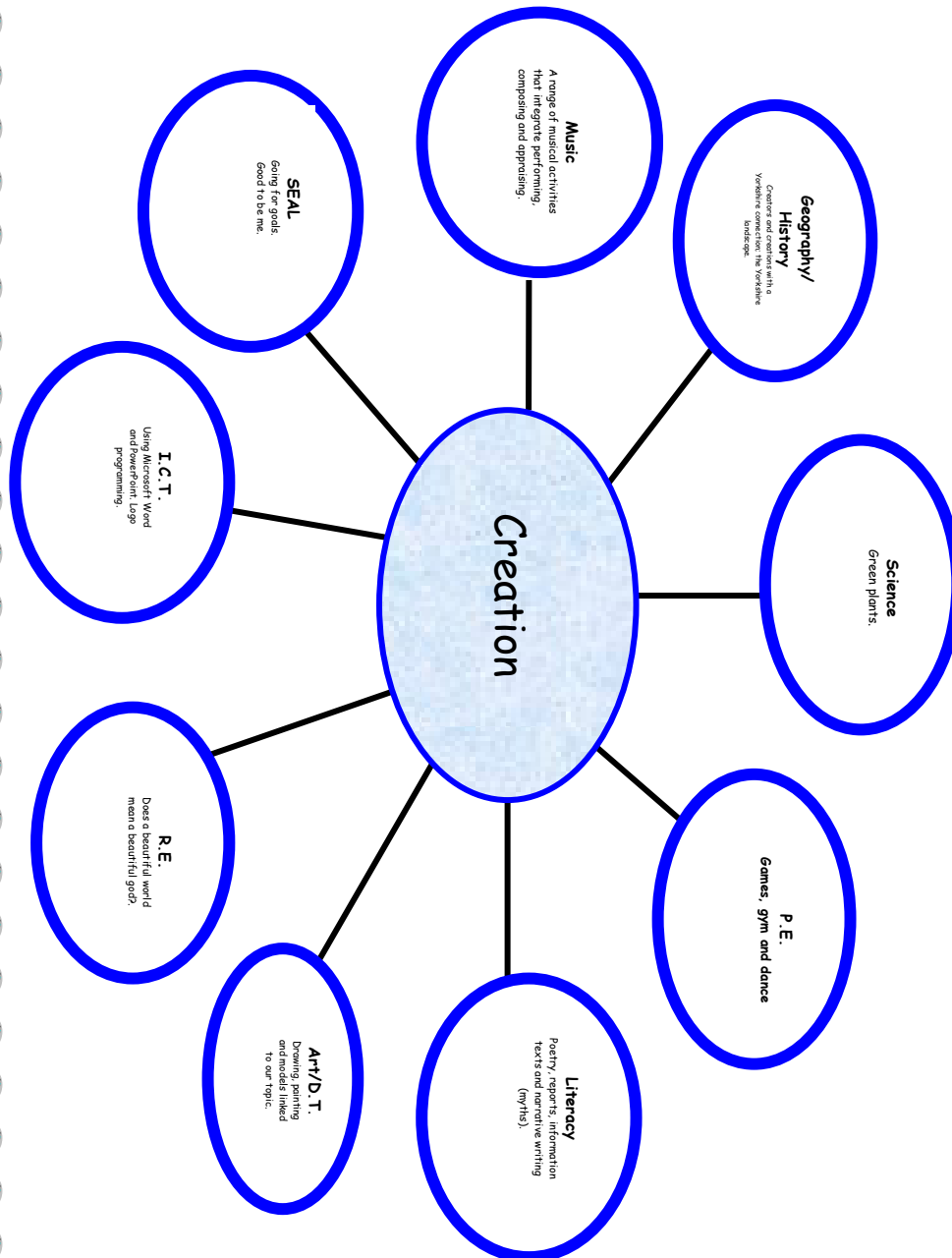
Below is a brief summary of some of the things the children will be learning about this term. You will also find a topic overview at the end of this newsletter.

Literacy

The children will be following the Primary Framework objectives relating to their age and ability. As part of our Literacy work we will be studying poetry, recounts, information texts and report writing. The children will have opportunities to complete some longer, sustained narrative story writing and develop their skills in drafting and improving their work.

Reading

Almost all of our reading in school is now done through guided reading, although there will still be some individual reading done. The books are colour banded and we will be encouraging the children to learn how to change their own books. We would encourage you to read with your child frequently as this helps them with fluency and intonation. As they progress, they will increasingly come upon vocabulary that will need explaining and this time is ideal for you to check that they understand what they have read.



Maths

As in Literacy, the children will follow objectives from the Primary Framework relating to their age and ability. We will be focusing on the Key Instant Recall Facts (K.I.R.F.s), more information about these is sent home each half-term. You can help your child at home by carrying out some of the activities on the sheet. We will also be covering place value, calculation, shape, measuring and handling data.



We would encourage you to continue using Mathletics 3 to 5 times a week. Some of our children are well on the way to achieving a Gold Certificate which is a great achievement and is celebrated in school at Friday's assembly. Mathletics certificates will be presented in Friday assemblies and as well as the trophy for "Mathlete of the Week"!

Science

Science work will focus on green plants, including different parts of the plant and what they need to grow.

Topic

The whole school topic is Creation. We will be looking at creators and creations which have a York or Yorkshire connection, including railways, Joseph Rowntree, David Hockney and Ted Hughes and we will be investigating factors which have influenced Yorkshire landscapes.

P.E. and Swimming

Our P.E. days this term are Mondays (indoor P.E.) and Fridays (outdoor P.E.) It is useful if your child keeps their P.E. kit in school, especially their trainers, just in case we get any extra sessions or have to change our day. We will be going out for some sessions so make sure they have suitable clothing for inside and out.

Please could inhalers remain in your child's bag so that they can access them when needed and could all freshly pierced ears be covered with tape to protect them during the activities. Earrings must then be removed for all P.E activities.

Homework and Spellings

Subject	Given	Return by the following
Spellings	Friday	Wednesday Test—Thursday
Maths	Wednesday	Monday

This term spelling homework will be set on Friday to be returned by the following Wednesday. Spellings will be tested on Thursday. The children will bring home a sheet with the spellings on which they will need to complete. Maths homework, sometimes Mathletics, will be set on Wednesday to be returned or completed by the following Monday.

If, for whatever reason, your child has been unable to complete their homework please let us know, either by having a chat with one of us first thing in the morning or by writing a note in their planner. We can then make arrangements for completing it, either during play-times or at home. The children can go on Mathletics as often as they like! It's great fun and wonderful for independent learning.

Mrs Briggs, Mrs Cole and Mrs Challis.