

# The Otway News

Autumn Term 2025

## Computing

We are still using **Purple Mash** to learn about coding and online safety especially keeping passwords safe and blogging safely.

## Music

We are learning about pulse, rhythm and pitch through a song called Let Your Spirt Fly Year 3 may also learn a musical instrument-watch this space!



Dear Parents

Welcome to Key Stage 2 and Year 3! It's a new year...a new term...a new classroom... a new teacher and a new key Stage. I have quite a lot of information for you so please read this newsletter and see what we are learning this term.

There is also a section to explain the home learning and the 'Star Reader' which is something KS2 do.

All this will also be explained at the 'Meet the Teacher' meeting on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 2.45pm.**

Our web page will also be a good place to look at each week if you miss or lose something.

Of course we also have new email address.....[yr3@colneyheath.herts.sch.uk](mailto:yr3@colneyheath.herts.sch.uk)

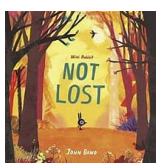
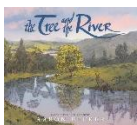
**I check this by 7.30pm. Anything later can be sent to the office. If it's a message about pick up it's best to send this to the office anyway.**

Our lovely TA this term are... Mrs West. Mrs Charalambous supports an individual child.

My PPA is covered by Mrs Freislich on a Tuesday morning.

## Literacy

We are kickstarting our term with a whole school project with a book called 'The Tree and the River'



As well as 'Mini Rabbit, not Lost'

## DT/Art

In D and T we are learning about food and how it is 'made' eg grown/harvested/caught/reared /produced.

We will use a range of utensils safely to make a healthy snack.

In Art we are looking at drawing and how to draw 3D shapes as well as learning how to show light in drawings.

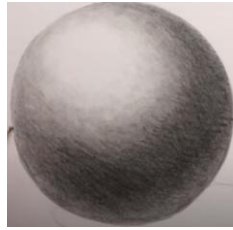
## Science

In Science, we are learning about different types of rock and investigating their properties.



As well as forces and magnetism.

We are also looking at fables including 'The Squirrels who squabbled' as well as a poem called 'The Magic Box'.



All magnets have two poles - a South pole and a North pole. You can see them marked on these pictures.

Unlike poles attract and pull in the direction of the arrows.

Like poles repel and push away from each other in the direction of the arrows.

These metal objects are attracted to this horseshoe magnet.

Not all metals are magnetic. Do you know which metals are?

**History**  
Our very first topic is all about the Stoneage. It's a fascinating topic. Expect to hear the words....palaeolithic, mesolithic and neolithic tripping off your child's tongue on a regular basis!

We have a trip booked to Celtic Harmony which shows how people used to live in 'the very old days!' This is **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November**

**Maths** Lots of Maths.... We follow a Herts Scheme which, for this term, includes place value, counting on in 1s,10s and 100s, comparing and ordering numbers, mental addition and subtraction, angles and 2D shape including perimeter. Phew!

We also have a fluency session each day which is designed to help things 'stick'

Joke of the term.....  
(Based on the stoneage)

What does a rock eat?  
Poma-granites!!

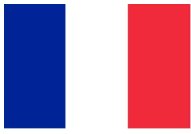
**Geography**  
Using maps to locate some of the world's countries especially those in Europe. We will learn about longitude, latitude and the prime meridian.

**PSHE/RE**  
Our two topics are Being me in my world and Celebrating differences. In RE we are learning about stories from The Old Testament and people that follow God. We are also learning about the Trinity.

**PE**  
This term is all about invasion games and gymnastics and dance.

PE times are Tuesday and Friday PE kit is ESSENTIAL.

## French



Bonjour! In Year 3 we start to learn French. We follow a scheme called Language Angels.

We will find France and Paris on a map

We are starting with 10 common colours and learning to count from 1-10.



## Reading

We will follow the reading records from year 2 but I always like to spend the first week hearing the children read to check they are on the right level, please bear with us while we do this.

PLEASE can you record their reading in their record books. It doesn't have to be a school book but if you don't record it, it looks to us as if your child isn't reading anything. We are continually monitoring our records.

We do whole class guided reading 4 times a week which really helps to introduce year 3 books to the class, year 3 vocabulary as well as retrieving information from texts. These are extracts from books and are quite challenging. PLEASE hear your children read as much as possible so they can access these extracts. Don't forget to read to your child too, find your inner actor and put on some voices!

## Reminders

- Please label EVERYTHING! We nearly always have a spare t-shirt or pair of shorts that we can't find an owner of after each PE lesson.
- PE is on Tuesday and Friday for the first half term. Please make sure your child has the correct kit, especially footwear for outside, we go out even if the weather is dodgy!
- Wellies are needed when the weather gets very wet, especially for going in the sandpit.
- Keep checking the class webpage, you will find most information on here. Look at the extra information about home learning.
- Keep reading regularly; look at the extra information about star reader.
- **ASSEMBLY DATE FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER at 9.05am**

## Home learning looks like this....

### Reading

- In KS2 it is expected that your child reads at least 4 times a week. Reading records will be checked during the week. Please make sure you record their reading in the orange reading record! Reading is the key to learning but it is also good to read TO your child as well.

## Times Tables

These are also an essential part of our curriculum. To be able to do fractions you need to know your times tables, they are also a nifty, quick way to add. Please use your TTRockstar login.