

The Otway News

Spring Term 2026

Computing

We are still using **Purple Mash** to learn about touch typing and emails.

Music

We are learning about reggae music, mostly by Bob Marley as well as The Dragon song which is about being kind and respectful.



But...hot news! We are now learning drumming on djembe drums....it's wonderful!

Literacy

We are kickstarting our term with Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll.....

Dear Parents

Welcome back! I hope you all had a good Christmas/holiday break, a bug free holiday and are raring to go in 2026! 2026 is the year of the horse which brings energy, optimism and the chance to move forward. It also means a year of action, adventure and enthusiasm!



Thank you for your gifts for all of the people working in year 3. They were very much appreciated and very generous of you.

Please look at what we are learning this term in this newsletter plus the reminder about home learning expectations.

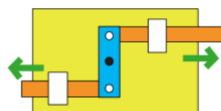
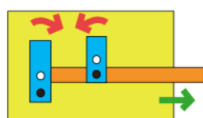
You can still make contact via the yr 3 email.....yr3@colneyheath.herts.sch.uk

Just a reminder that are TAs are..... Mrs West, Mrs Charalambous and of course Mrs Freislich covers my PPA on a Tuesday am.

Our **ASSEMBLY DATE** is Friday 16th January, we would love to see you there and come back to the classroom afterwards.

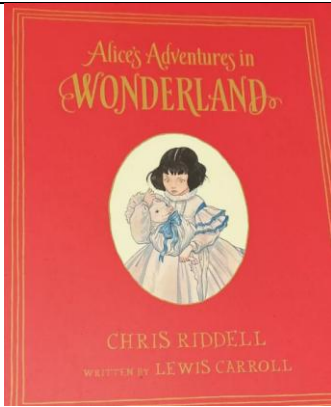
DT/Art

In D and T we are learning about mechanisms including levers.



Science

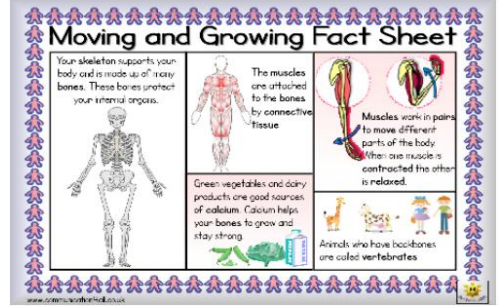
In Science, our topic is Animals and Humans We are especially learning about different types of skeletons-endo and exo skeletons.....



and next half term we are looking at a book about plastic pollution called Stella and the Seagull.



In Art we are looking at printing techniques by looking at an artist called John Fellows who loves mountains, valleys and nature.

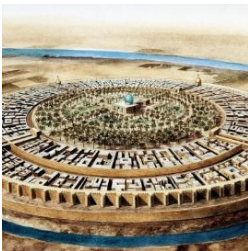


as well as learning about a balanced diet and what each food group does for the body.



History

Our History topic is about Early Islamic Civilisation.



Maths Lots of Maths...

We follow a Herts Scheme which, for this term, includes fractions, problem solving, angles and 2D shape including perimeter.

This term we are looking at the 3x 4x and 8x tables.

We also do Maths fluency each day so we don't forget things... a



bit like an elephant!

Joke of the term.....

(Based on healthy eating topic)

What fruit do scarecrows love the most?



Answer: Straw-berries.

Where do baby apes sleep?



Answer: In apricots.

Geography

Using maps to locate some of the world's countries especially those in Europe.



PSHE/RE

Our two topics are Dreams and Goals as well as Healthy Me.

In RE we are learning about belonging, different ideas about God, sacred spaces and prayer as well as Lent in the build up to Easter.

The Faith Tour Trip, which is really interesting, is on Wednesday 14th January.

PE

This term is all about basketball and Orienteering.



French



Bonjour! Last term we learnt colours and numbers...this term we are learning the names of instruments as well as fruit and veg.



Reading at Home

The first thing we do each morning when we come in is to look at the writing we have done the previous day, we correct and fix mistakes such as spellings or grammar errors. While the registers are being done, your child should also get out their reading book and read. Mrs West checks each child's reading records. It is expected that your child reads a minimum of 4x a week. Please help your child to be 'Book ready' each morning. They also have a chance to change books during this time.

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. Talking of PE, this is on a TUESDAY and FRIDAY. Too many children still do NOT have their PE kit in school on these days. They also need to be suitably equipped to go outside.
- Keep checking the class webpage, you will find most information on here. Look at the extra information about home learning on here including reading. Don't forget to check out the weekly blog so you can see what your child has been learning.

Home learning looks like this.....

Reading

- In KS2 it is expected that your child reads at least 4 times a week. Reading is, put simply, the key to learning. We hear children read through guided reading and some one to one reading, especially for children that find it difficult, but if there is one single thing you can do, it is to hear your child read. Please make sure you record their reading in the orange reading record!

Spellings

Spellings are now done in class but each week I put the spellings we have learnt on the class webpage so you might like to look at them and practice doing them.

Maths

- Don't forget to do TT Rockstars. Your child has their own login so please have a look at this. Ideally this should be done daily or at least 4x a week. Certificates are given out in assembly for those that are doing it regularly. By the power of a few buttons I can check who is/is not doing it.