

**Year 3**  
**Parent Curriculum Letter**  
**Spring Term 1 - 2026**



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We would like to thank you all so much for your Christmas cards, messages and gifts, it was so kind of you - we hope you all had an enjoyable break.

We have a few events for your diary this half term. Please see these below or visit our school website.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email us at [year3@gadevalley.herts.sch.uk](mailto:year3@gadevalley.herts.sch.uk). Our class page will continue to be updated weekly with what the pupils have been doing for that week.

Mrs Tarver, Ms Reed and Ms Field

<b>English</b>	<p><b>Week 1-3 Traditional Tales</b> - In this unit we will be exploring traditional tales with a twist. We will be reading books such as 'Beware of Girls' by Tony Blundell, 'The Three Little Wolves and The Big Bad Pig' by Eugene Trivizas and 'The True Story of the Three Little Pigs' by Jon Scieszka. We will then plan and write our own alternative versions of traditional tales.</p> <p><b>Week 4-6 Explanation texts</b> - Linked to our Geography unit this half term, the class will be writing an explanation text about volcanoes. We will explore the features of explanation texts and implement these into our own writing.</p> <p><b>Spelling Patterns-</b></p> <p><b>Week 1:</b> Revision of High Frequency words</p> <p><b>Week 2:</b> Explore homophones and near homophones</p> <p><b>Week 3:</b> Revision apostrophes for contraction</p> <p><b>Week 4:</b> Review apostrophe for possession</p> <p><b>Week 5:</b> Review suffix -ly (with a consonant before it)</p> <p><b>Week 6:</b> Explore suffix -ally</p> <p><b>Handwriting and Spellings:</b> This will be taught in daily discrete lessons and practised throughout the curriculum. The pupils will be learning to write in continuous cursive.</p> <p><b>We Read:</b> The pupils will have a guided reading session every day. Two of these sessions will be whole class guided reading lessons. In these sessions the pupils will be reading a range of texts. We will be using the book 'Fantastic Mr Fox' by Roald Dahl. The three remaining sessions will focus on developing comprehension skills.</p> <p><b>Once upon a time:</b> At the end of each day, we read a high quality text to the pupils for 15 minutes. These sessions promote and develop a love of reading. Our will be finishing the book 'Erica's Elephant' by Sylvia Bishop.</p>
<b>Maths</b>	<p><b>Addition and Subtraction</b> Adding and subtracting ones tens and hundreds; adding and subtracting across a 10; adding and subtracting across a 100; adding and subtracting 2 and 3-digit numbers; complements to 100; inverse operations and estimating answers.</p> <p><b>Length and Perimeter</b> Measuring in metres, centimetres and millimetres; finding equivalent lengths (e.g. 124 cm = 1m and 24cm); comparing, adding and subtracting lengths; measuring and calculating perimeter.</p> <p>The pupils will also get the opportunity to use Times Tables Rock stars in school, however they need to still practise at home.</p> <p><b>Take 5:</b> These are daily sessions, where the pupils will be recapping their previous learning in Maths in a fun and active way.</p>
<b>Science</b>	<p><b>Forces and Magnets</b> - The pupils will learn about forces, friction, and magnetic attraction. They will learn about forces in the context of pushing and pulling and will identify different actions as pushes or pulls. The pupils will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate friction. They will develop their scientific enquiry skills, making observations, predictions and conclusions.</p>
<b>Computing</b>	<p><b>Programming</b> - This unit explores the concept of sequencing in programming through Scratch. It begins with an introduction to the programming environment. Pupils will be introduced to a selection of motion, sound, and event blocks which they will use to create their own programs, featuring sequences.</p>
<b>P.S.H.E.</b>	<p><b>Dreams and Goals</b> -The pupils will be given opportunities to reflect on themselves as individuals. Particularly their strengths as learners and how they learn most effectively.</p>
<b>Geography</b>	<p><b>Why do people live near volcanoes?</b> - The pupils will learn about how the Earth is constructed and how and where mountains are formed, before moving on to studying volcanoes. They will explore why volcanoes happen, where they occur and what the negative and positive effects of living near a volcano are. Finally, they will discuss what earthquakes are and where they occur.</p>
<b>ART</b>	<p><b>Art-</b> Painting and mixed media: We will be discovering how and why our ancient ancestors made art, experimenting with natural materials to make homemade paints and playing with scale to paint on a range of surfaces. We will also Obe making our own 3D volcanoes using a range of skills and even carrying out our own volcanic eruption!</p>
<b>P.E.</b>	<p><b>Dodgeball</b> - Pupils will improve on the key skills used in dodgeball such as throwing, dodging and catching. They will learn how to apply simple tactics to outwit their opponents and will be given opportunities to play games independently. They will be taught the importance of being honest whilst playing to the rules.</p>
<b>R.E.</b>	<p><b>Sikhism</b> - The pupils will be learning about Sikhism. They will learn who Sikhs are and what they believe in. The pupils will also find out about the naming ceremonies of Sikh children and the Sikh baptismal ceremony of Amrit. In addition, they will also learn about Sikh wedding and funeral ceremonies.</p>

<b>French</b>	<b>French playground games (numbers and age)</b> - Pupils will learn to count in French from one to twelve, recognise the written number words, ask how old someone is and answer the same question, compare sentence structures in French and English, and practise all the vocabulary by playing counting and some traditional French games.
<b>Homework</b>	<p><b>TTRockstars:</b> Pupils are expected to complete <b>at least 25 minutes</b> of TTRockstars at home to support their understanding and fluency. We check this every Wednesday.</p> <p><b>Maths:</b> Homework will be given out on a Friday and will be due in the following Wednesday. Homework will be based on the maths learning the pupils have been completing in school.</p> <p><b>Reading:</b> Pupils are expected to read <b>at least 5 times a week</b> and for their reading to be recorded in their school planners which will be checked every Wednesday. They will need to read <b>5 times</b> to enter the Golden Ticket draw in Friday's assembly.</p>

**Special dates and events this term:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January - Doodlebug drawing workshop (in school)</li> <li>• Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January - Y3 Class Assembly</li> <li>• Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February - Safer Internet Week</li> <li>• Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February - Volcano Day</li> <li>• Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February - Hazard Alley trip</li> <li>• Monday 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February - Half Term</li> </ul> |
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