

SPINFIELD SCHOOL

Year Three Autumn Term 2026



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn Term! I am delighted to be working in partnership with you and your child, and I am really looking forward to getting to know each of the children as we continue their learning journey together.

During the first few weeks, my main focus will be on helping the children settle happily into Year 3, building strong relationships, and supporting them to become familiar with the routines and expectations of Key Stage 2. Alongside this, we will be encouraging the children to develop their resilience, independence and confidence, helping them to feel happy, secure and ready to embrace all the exciting opportunities the year has to offer.

Important information

The email address for Year Three is: year3@spinfieldschool.co.uk

Emails via the class email will be replied to within two working days. The times that teachers are able to respond are between 8.15 - 8.45 and 3.45 - 6.00. The class email address will not be monitored during the school day as teachers are teaching. If you have an urgent message that needs to be passed on to your child's class teacher, which will, in the main, be a change in pick up arrangements please email the school office by 3.00pm. If we have not received confirmation of changes to pick up, your child will remain in school until we are able to contact you.

Please use the email address for the following:

- Arranging an appointment with your child's class teacher.
- Creative Corner photographic presentations
- Queries regarding home learning, reading or spellings

I have planned a careful balance of challenging work and fun activities that I am sure will be enjoyable and rewarding for all of us: below is an outline of what your child will be learning this term.

For the first half term, children in Y3 will be learning all about biomes! We will be exploring different land biomes in Geography and expand on this through our Writing and Art/DT lessons.

In the second half term, Year 3 will be travelling back in time as we learn all about the Vikings! This will be our focus for our History lessons, and also in our Writing and Art/DT lessons.

Subject	1 st half term	2 nd half term
English	Children will develop their writing skills through a range of exciting and engaging texts. They will begin by exploring journalistic writing, investigating the features of newspapers and discovering how reports are structured. Working together, the class will choose a biome to report on from a news perspective, using factual language and key features to create their own newspaper articles. Children will also develop their descriptive writing by creating an informative and persuasive travel brochure about a biome of their choice. They will learn how to use rich vocabulary and carefully chosen language to bring their chosen environment to life for the reader.	As part of the <i>What a Saga!</i> topic, children will immerse themselves in the fascinating world of Viking mythology through the stories <i>Odin Creates the World</i> , <i>Freya and the Goblins</i> and <i>Thor and the Giants</i> . Through shared reading, discussion, role play and drama, they will explore the themes, characters and adventures within these traditional sagas before creating their own imaginative versions. These experiences will inspire children to write detailed character descriptions and thoughtful diary entries from the perspective of their favourite Viking character.
	Alongside these exciting writing opportunities, children will continue to develop their core English skills through regular spelling, punctuation, grammar and guided reading lessons.	

	Each spelling rule will be taught over a four-week period, with new words introduced each week.	
Maths	Place Value Children will begin by strengthening their understanding of place value. They will explore numbers to 1,000 by partitioning them into hundreds, tens and ones, revisiting number bonds and developing confidence in comparing and ordering numbers. They will also place and estimate numbers on a number line, helping them to build a secure understanding of the number and its value. Addition and Subtraction The focus will then move to addition and subtraction, where children will learn to add and subtract numbers up to 1,000. They will begin by using practical resources, including Base 10 equipment, place value charts and counters, to deepen their understanding of the mathematical concepts before progressing to efficient written methods, including the formal column method.	Addition and Subtraction continued The children will continue to develop confidence in using the formal column method. Children will be encouraged to explain their reasoning, choose appropriate strategies and develop accuracy and confidence when solving problems. Multiplication and Division Children will practise making groups of numbers, then making and reading arrays. Children will increase their times table fluency by practising multiplication and division problems in the 2's, 3's, 4's, and 8's times tables. Children will practise their times tables 1-3 times per week, and need to be practising at home as well.
Science	Animals, including humans Children will explore how animals, including humans, stay healthy and the importance of nutrition, movement and care for our bodies. They will learn that animals need the right types and amounts of nutrition to survive and that, unlike plants, humans and other animals cannot make their own food and must get the nutrients they need from what they eat. Children will investigate the different food groups and discover how a balanced diet helps our bodies to grow, repair and stay healthy. They will use their understanding of nutrition to design and plan their own healthy lunch box or meal, considering the different foods needed to create a balanced diet. Children will also explore how humans and other animals have skeletons and muscles that work together to provide support, protection and movement. Through practical activities and investigations, they will develop their understanding of how our bodies are structured and how different parts work together.	Rocks Children will explore the fascinating world of rocks and discover how they are formed and changed over time. They will learn that soils are made from a mixture of rocks and organic matter, developing their understanding of how the ground beneath our feet is created. Children will investigate fossils, exploring what they are, how they are formed and what they can tell us about life from the past. Through practical activities, children will examine a range of different rocks and use their observations to group them according to their appearance and simple physical properties. These investigations will encourage children to ask questions, make comparisons and develop their skills as young scientists.

Computing	Online safety Children are introduced to the idea of identity. They explore how people can show themselves in different ways online, such as through gaming characters, avatars, or social media profiles, and think about why someone might do this. Email The children will explore electronic communication using 2Email. Children learn how to respond to, compose and add attachments to emails as well as consider the safety aspects of email communication.	Online Safety Children explore how people with similar interests can meet online and think about the difference between “knowing” someone online and knowing them in real life. They also discuss the importance of permission when sharing things online, just as they would when sharing offline. Route planners Children will plan algorithms and write code that includes angles of turn to create routes for screen turtles, testing them using 2Go. Children will experiment with using the repeat command to make shapes that have 90° and 45° angles.
Humanities	Geography Children will explore the fascinating world of biomes and discover how different environments across the globe are shaped by climate and location. They will revisit the six main land biomes: Savanna, Desert, Temperate Forest, Rainforest, Taiga Forest and Tundra, developing their understanding of how climate influences the plants (flora) and animals (fauna) that can survive in each environment. To bring their learning to life, children will take part in an exciting virtual reality experience day, where they will have the opportunity to explore different biomes around the world through immersive technology. This experience will inspire their descriptive writing as they create a detailed brochure showcasing their chosen biome, using geographical knowledge and rich vocabulary to engage their reader.	History Children will step back in time to explore the Viking Age and discover the impact of Viking raids and invasions on Anglo-Saxon Britain. They will learn about key events from this period and place them in chronological order on a timeline, developing their understanding of how history unfolds over time. Children will explore the lives and influence of significant Anglo-Saxon kings who ruled during the Viking Age, considering their importance within British history. They will also investigate what everyday life was like for Vikings, including their homes, clothing, food, work and leisure activities. Through historical enquiry and practical activities, children will develop a deeper understanding of Viking society and how people lived during this fascinating period.
Art / DT	Art Children will develop their creativity through the exploration of collage techniques inspired by their learning about biomes. Children will experiment with a range of mixed media, combining hand-drawn artwork, photographs and other materials to create a detailed and imaginative collage. DT Children will combine their creativity and problem-solving skills as they design and create their own moving picture inspired by a biome of their choice. They will explore how different mechanisms work, including sliders, levers and wheels, and investigate how these can be used to create movement within a design.	Art Children will explore the world of Viking mythology through art, taking inspiration from traditional depictions of Viking sagas and the powerful gods and goddesses within these stories. They will develop their understanding of tone and shading by experimenting with the use of black and white paint to create different tints and tones, applying these techniques to bring their artwork to life. Children will explore the design and construction of Viking longboats, developing their understanding of structures and technical components. They will investigate how nets and different construction techniques can be used to create a strong and effective model before designing and building their own Viking longship, through this practical project,

PE	Forest School Children will develop confidence, resilience and teamwork through hands-on outdoor learning. They will explore the natural environment, complete practical challenges and learn to use natural resources safely and responsibly. Communication and Tactics games Children will develop their ability to work collaboratively as part of a team, learning how communication, listening, cooperation and support help teams to be successful. They will work together to create and apply simple attacking and defending tactics, developing an understanding of how movement, positioning, support and communication can help their team succeed. They will practise using these tactics in games and begin to recognise when they need to adapt their approach.	Forest School Children will develop confidence, resilience and teamwork through hands-on outdoor learning. They will explore the natural environment, complete practical challenges and learn to use natural resources safely and responsibly. Dance Children will explore movement through a variety of themes and musical styles, developing rhythm, coordination and expression. They will create, practise and perform short dance sequences, working both independently and collaboratively
Music	Music from around the world This term, Year 3 will explore music from around the world and discover how different cultures have influenced the music we listen to today. We will listen to, compare and discuss music from countries including China, Indonesia, Jamaica, Brazil, Portugal, Israel and many more, developing our understanding of a wide range of musical traditions and styles. Through singing, performing and listening activities, children will learn to identify features such as rhythm, tempo, dynamics and instrumentation, while considering how music can reflect a country's history, culture and traditions. They will have opportunities to perform confidently, express their own musical ideas and develop their ability to listen thoughtfully and respond to a variety of high-quality live and recorded music from different times and places. This exciting unit will broaden pupils' musical knowledge and encourage an appreciation of the rich diversity of music across the world.	
RE	Why are holy books so important? Children will explore why the Bible is important to Christians. They will learn about the story of Mary Jones and discover how Christians use the Bible at home and in church. Children will explore the different types of writing found within the Bible and consider how these different texts help Christians understand different aspects of God. Children will also reflect on why certain books are special to different people and learn about the importance of the Torah to Jewish people, including its connection to the Christian Bible.	How is light significant for Christians at Christmas? As Christmas approaches, children will explore why light is an important symbol for Christians. They will revisit the Christmas story and develop their understanding of its meaning, focusing on the role of the angels appearing to the shepherds and the star guiding the wise men. Through artwork, children will explore the idea of Jesus as the "light of the world" and how this symbol is used within Christian beliefs.

PSHE	Safety First Children will develop their understanding of how to stay safe and make positive choices in different situations. Through the Safety First unit, they will explore new responsibilities, identify risks and hazards, and discuss how to respond safely when faced with different challenges. Children will consider how to manage pressure, stay safe when out and about, understand the dangers of harmful substances and know what to do in the event of an injury or emergency.	VIPs (Very Important Person) Children will explore the important relationships in their lives and what makes a positive friendship. They will discuss how friendships are formed and maintained, and identify the qualities that help relationships to grow. Children will also explore how to manage disagreements, understand bullying and learn strategies to help them respond to challenges in a respectful and positive way.
French	Les Phoniques/ I am learning French Children will begin to develop their confidence in speaking and listening in French. They will learn key sounds and pronunciation skills through songs, speaking activities and interactive lessons. Children will practise introducing themselves, greeting others and describing how they are feeling using simple French phrases. .	Vegetables Children will also expand their vocabulary by learning the names of ten common vegetables, including how to use the correct articles and plural forms. They will practise these new words through speaking and listening activities before taking part in a French market role-play, where they will ask for and buy different quantities of vegetables. These activities will help children to build confidence in using French in everyday conversations.

General Organisation:

Absence:

Please ring school on the first day of absence if your child is away. If you have not contacted school by 9.20am, a member of staff will contact you. You are not required to supply a note if you have contacted the school.

Year 3 homework:

Reading

Children will bring home a reading book each week to enjoy with someone at home. We ask that you listen to your child read and record this in their reading record at least three times each week. Many books include suggested discussion questions at the back to support comprehension. If there aren't any, you could ask your child about the meaning of new vocabulary, discuss the characters' actions and feelings, or encourage them to make predictions about what might happen next. We will also send home question prompts to help guide these conversations.

Maths

Each week, children will receive one Doodle Maths assignment to complete. In addition, we encourage all children to spend around 10 minutes each day on Doodle Maths to build confidence and fluency. Alongside Doodle Maths, children are encouraged to use DoodleTables regularly to develop their recall of multiplication facts. Little and often is the best approach!

Spellings

Spellings will be sent home to practise during the week, with a short spelling test taking place each Friday.

Creative Corner

Once during the year, every child will prepare and deliver a short presentation on a topic of their choice. This is a wonderful opportunity to develop confidence, speaking skills and creativity. We will let you know in advance when it is your child's turn.

Parent volunteers:

We are very grateful to any parents who give up their time to support the school. All volunteers must have a current DBS check (see below), and have participated in a Spinfield safeguarding training. Please see your class rep if you would like to volunteer in school. Please note, our forest school sessions will run on Friday mornings this half of the term, and Friday afternoons in the last half of the term, our shared reading will run on a Monday morning and swimming will take place on Tuesday mornings, in summer term only.

DBS checks

Please note that the school requires parent helpers to hold a current DBS certificate and you will need to sign our confidentiality policy. Volunteers are also required to attend safeguarding training (which will need to be refreshed every 3 years). Training dates will be published in an email and in our newsletter. If you have not yet filled out the DBS form and the confidentiality policy, please collect them from the office. There will be a voluntary contribution for us to process the DBS form. You need to be aware that mobile phones may not be used inside the school building.

Daily Organisation:

Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school every day, as well as a healthy snack for the mid-morning break.

Timetable Information:

PE lessons are on a **Thursday and Friday (Forest school)** for the Autumn term. If, for any reason, your child is unable to take part in a PE or Forest school session, please provide a note.

Children will need to wear their PE kit on the days that they have PE. Please ensure your child has black tracksuit bottoms or shorts, either a school PE hoody or school sweatshirt, their PE t-shirt and trainers. Please ensure all PE kit is clearly labelled (preferably sewn-on labels). Children need to take out any earrings or tape over their earrings before coming to school, and watches are not allowed to be worn in PE. Children with long hair must tie back their hair. If your child does not wear his/her full PE kit (including appropriate socks) they may not be able to take part in the lesson.

Forgotten Items:

Please be aware that if your child forgets something for school, you will only be contacted if it is absolutely necessary, as we are trying to develop the children's independence and taking accountability for their equipment and personal items

Medication

Children must not bring medicines of any kind into school without prior agreement with Miss Spreadbury. A health care form must be completed for any required administration of medication.

Holidays:

The staff and governing body appreciate the decision made by parents not to take children out of school during term time. Where exceptional circumstances occur, a leave of absence form can be collected from Miss Spreadbury who will submit your application to the Governing Body for consideration.

If you wish to discuss the content of this letter or have any other concerns, please email the class email address.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Clarke and the Year Three Team