

Our Values

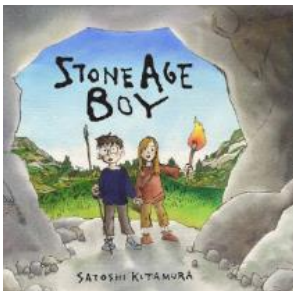
Respect, Kindness, Resilience,
Integrity, Honesty and Trust



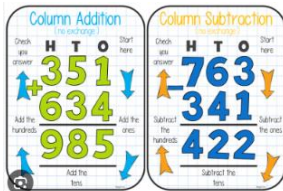
Our Pledge

- Listen and Learn
- Do our best
- Look after each other
- Look after our school

Year 3 Willow's Newsletter Autumn 1 2025



Year 3 have had a great start to the academic year. In **Literacy**, we have been exploring texts in detail through reading and discussions. This term we have focused on fiction genres of writing which link to our History topic 'The Stone Age'. We have written narratives this term based around our key text, 'The Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura. The children really enjoyed deep diving into the Stone Age world using creative and imaginative ways. We used the Talk for writing strategy where children drew pictures to retell parts of the story which supported them to re-write the entire story from memory. Children then had the task of changing the ending of the original story to a different pre-historic animal, writing in the first person as the boy character. The children were taught a range of writing skills such as fronted adverbials, similes, personification, expanded noun phrases and the use of senses to really build up the story to interest the reader. Throughout this term, we had weekly spellings tests. Please ensure your child continues to practise these at home reading for their test on Thursday.

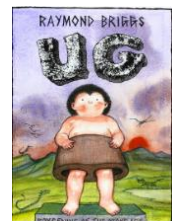


In **Maths** this term, as mathematicians, we developed our knowledge of number as well as strategies to add and subtract numbers mentally.

We began with Place Value before moving on to Addition and Subtraction. The children worked on numbers to 100 before working with numbers to 1000 completing addition and subtraction sums. To do this, we worked on understanding the value of each number so that they were confident with comparing and ordering numbers. At home, please ensure the children are learning their 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

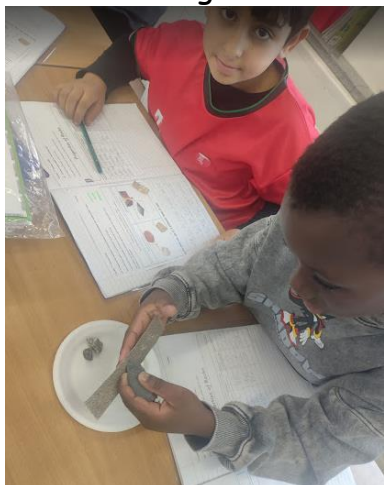
For our **Reading lessons (Destination Reader)**, we have been enjoying *UG* by Raymond Briggs. This book links beautifully with our **History topic**, and we began by making Stone Age necklaces to spark the children's curiosity and excitement about this fascinating period.

During our sessions, we have been focusing on key reading skills such as **summarising, clarifying, predicting, and asking questions**. Please use the recent **Destination Reader question sheet** to help you ask your child questions as you listen to them read each day.

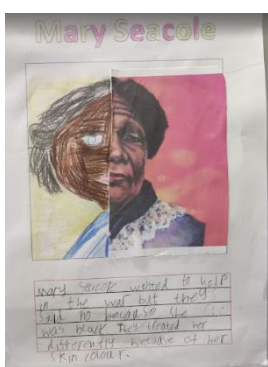


When your child returns their book on **Friday**, they will complete a short quiz about it. If they do well, they will then move on to the next reading level.

In **Science** this term, we learned how to compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties. We also carried out an experiment to test the absorbency, durability and permeability of a range of sedimentary and igneous rocks. Children thoroughly enjoyed this practical lesson as it deepened their understanding of rocks and their characteristics.



We have also had some amazing elements in terms of the wider curriculum and cultural capital that we've enjoyed this half term such as Black History Month where Year 3 learned about the activist Mary Seacole. Children drew some excellent portraits and wrote some facts about her achievements. Parents were invited to see the children's work as well as enjoy some African and Caribbean food to celebrate the memories of all the significant black people who have made a difference to our world today and in the past.



Year 3 also got to experience a special trip to see Paddington Bear. Children had an incredible time exploring rooms based on the film with actors and mini tasks to complete each step of the way before seeing the famous bear himself!



Wishing you all a wonderful half term break.

Miss Antonia