



Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter September 2023

Park Hill Junior School Curriculum

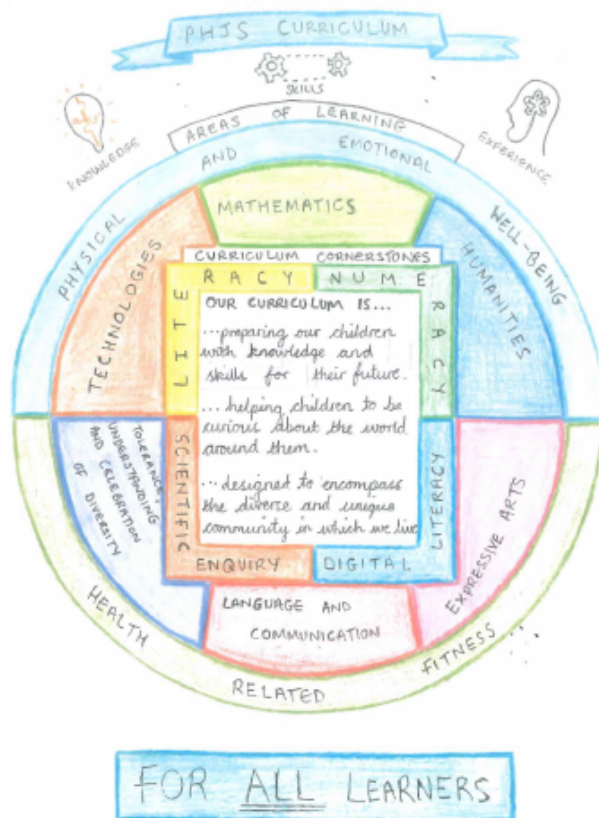
Each term this year, you will receive a Year Group Curriculum Newsletter which will showcase the learning the children have completed that term. The Newsletters will include pictures, examples of learning, explanations and child comments and we really hope you enjoy sharing them with your children and seeing what they have been learning.

We have worked carefully to develop our Park Hill Junior School curriculum over the last few years to ensure it is engaging, current and reflects our community. Our curriculum model (pictured below) shows the subjects we teach, the aims for our curriculum and how well-being is also thoughtfully considered.

This first curriculum newsletter is to show you what theme the children will be focusing their learning around in the Autumn term, including links to different sections of our website which will be helpful for you to look at. We look forward to sharing your child's learning with you in the next newsletter towards the end of the term.

We encourage you to ask your children questions about their learning to promote their curiosity, share their passions and help them to remember what they have learnt.

Thank you for your support.



Autumn term Curriculum

This term in year 3 the children will be introduced to the theme Let's Rock with a focus on the Stone Age through to the Iron age. In their lessons the children will learn about chronology, family life and agriculture. Their outdoor learning (which will start in Autumn 2) and their art and DT lessons will also be linked to this theme with them building shelters and designing cave paintings. Their Guided Reading books and some of their writing activities will also be linked.

MATHS
Children will learn:
• Number bonds to 100.
• Place value up to 1000
• Finding 1, 10 and 100 more or less than a given number
• Comparing objects and numbers
• Mental and written strategies for addition and subtraction
• To use arrays
• Three times tables (multiplication and division), especially the 2, 5, 3, 4 and 8 times table
• Mental and written strategies for multiplication and division

SCIENCE
Children will learn:
Working scientifically
• How to classify
• To use scientific evidence to answer questions
• To make careful observations
• To identify similarities and differences
• To ask relevant questions and use different types of scientific enquiries
• To use evidence to answer questions
• To take accurate measurements using a range of equipment
• To set up simple practical enquiries
• To record and report on findings
• To present data

READING AND WRITING
Children will use VIPERS and take part in Non-fiction Fridays in Guided Reading sessions
The class books they will be reading are: Stone Age Boy and History Detectives: Stone Age to Iron Age
To grammar lessons the children will learn about:
• Nouns, verbs and adjectives
• Past tense
• Paragraphs
• Coordinating conjunctions
• Sentence openers
writing the children will be using their knowledge to write:
• A letter about the stone age
• Evaluations of their outdoor shelters
• Comparisons of life now and
• Diary entries

ART AND DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
In art the children will learn:
• To use sketchbooks to make observations and review their art work
• To create and use natural dyes
• To take photographs from a high angle
In Design and Technology children will learn:
• To develop design criteria for an outdoor shelter
• To select and use equipment
• To create annotated diagrams
• To create their own tools using fibre
• To evaluate their products against the criteria

History
In history the children will learn:
• The chronology of the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age.
• About hunter-gatherers
• About agriculture, family life and trade
• The lives of the wealthy people
• About the importance of Stonehenge
• How to use different sources to research information
• Changes from the stone age to the Iron Age.

MUSIC
Children will learn about the musical elements through:
• The instruments of an orchestra
• Identifying the different musical families

COMPUTING
Children will learn:
• E-safety
• How to use Google Classroom
• To login type

PE
Children will learn:
• About pacing and reviewing
• To begin to move and use actions with co-ordination and Control which will be explored through netball

PSHE
Children will be following the jagow programme and learn:
• To recognise their worth and achievements
• To set personal goals
• To face new challenges positively
• About rules, roles and responsibilities
• How to make responsible choices
• How families are different
• That sometimes families have conflicts and differences
• About being witnesses and bystanders
• How words can be hurtful

RE
Children will be learning about:
• Celebrations including (Easter and Mid)
• Worship at home and in the temple
• Ritual patterns
• Christmas – the Christmas story

RE
Children will learn:
• Greetings and classroom instructions
• How to answer the question 'How are you?'
• Correct colour

Curriculum Maps

Specific information about what the children will be learning in each subject is included on the curriculum map which can be found on our website and linked [here](#).

As we adapt our teaching to suit the needs of the children or to reflect events which are happening in the world, certain things may change but the curriculum maps give an overview of the knowledge and skills the children will be learning.

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Knowledge organisers

[Included on our website here \(please scroll down to the Knowledge Organiser section\)](#)

are our Knowledge Organisers. These are great resources and the 'go to' documents that the children use in class to help them remember key facts, vocabulary, spellings and information around a particular topic they are learning in a subject or in a theme. These also encourage the children to be resourceful in lessons. At home we encourage you to discuss them with your children and see what they have learnt already and what they remember from their lessons. Our initial letter introducing these can be found [here](#)

PARK HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL
YEAR 3 ROCKS KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

KEY VOCABULARY AND SPELLINGS
Rock – made up of grains that are packed together
Mineral – solid chemical substances that occur naturally
Fossil – the remains or impressions of a prehistoric plant or animal embedded in rock
Igneous – lava or magma that has turned from liquid to solid (forming a rock)
Metamorphic – an igneous or sedimentary rock that has been changed by extreme heat or pressure
Sedimentary – a rock formed from the build-up of sediment at the bottom of rivers or oceans
Sediment – dead animals, plants or pieces of rock that settles to the bottom of a liquid
Magma – liquid rock inside a volcano
Lava – liquid rock which flows out of a volcano (ranging from 700 to 1200 degrees centigrade)

TYPES OF ROCKS
IGNEOUS ROCKS – are very hard, dark and heavy. They are formed when molten magma from a volcano cools down. They tend to have interlocking grains giving the rock a crystalline appearance. **EXAMPLES:** granite, basalt, obsidian.
METAMORPHIC ROCKS – are rocks which have been changed over time by pressure or heat. Fossils can be found in metamorphic rocks if plants and animals have been trapped in the rocks. They are hard but can be damaged by acids. **EXAMPLES:** slate, marble.
SEDIMENTARY ROCKS – are formed by sediment (which includes minerals, small pieces of plants and other organic matter) that is deposited over time. The sediment is compressed over a long period of time before it becomes solid layers of rock. **EXAMPLES:** sandstone, limestone, flint, chalk.

LAYERS OF SOIL
Soil is made of air and water. In soil you can find sand, small stones, bits of leaves and roots. There are also millions of micro-organisms in the soil which help break down the matter and make the soil healthy and full of life.

FOSSILS When an animal or plant dies, it usually decays quickly or can be eaten. However, sometimes an animal's body sinks into thick mud where there is oxygen so the remains don't decay or aren't disturbed. The remains rest here for thousands/millions of years with more mud and pressure on them. Minerals in the mud turn the remains to stone.

Reading

During Guided Reading sessions, in every year group, we follow the **VIPERS** skills

V = Vocabulary

I = Inferencing

P = Predicting

E = Explaining

R = Retrieving

S = Summarising

Reading Vipers

Vocabulary
Infer
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Sequence or Summarise



Every day one or two of these skills are the focus and on a Friday it is Non-fiction Friday, where the children can research and learn facts based on the theme they are learning.

Experiences

We are in the process of booking trips and experiences for the children this year. In the Autumn term year 3 will be going to the Horniman museum for a workshop on the Stone Age.

Information about trips will be sent to you in a separate letter.



Please Just Ask

If you need to speak to us about your child's curriculum, please do come and speak to your child's class teacher or Ms Dempsey or Miss Turner. You can also go to the curriculum page on our website which you can access on the following link:

<https://www.phjs.co.uk/curriculum/curriculum-statement>

Can you help?

If you have a particular passion or skill which you think will link well with a theme please speak to your child's class teacher or Miss Turner. Alternatively, you can email the school office.

Also if you hear of local or national events which you think would be good to promote in our school please share them with us.



Gold level accreditation



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