

# Year 3 Newsletter Spring One

## Welcome back!

I hope you've all had a relaxing break and made the most out of the festive celebrations!

As I am sure you're already aware, we have been extremely busy in Holly and Hazel classes! During our last curriculum topic ("Meet The Flintstones") we have uncovered and learnt lots of interesting things about the Stone Age, which even included designing and creating our own weapons and carts! This term, we will be moving on to exploring the country of China and will even be researching into the lives of the ancient Shang Dynasty! We are also pleased to welcome Miss Farmer, who will be teaching Hazel class Curriculum lessons throughout the week. Please find attached all the information below which will outline what we will be learning about in class.

## LITERACY

This half term in Literacy, pupils are going to be focusing on studying the text 'The Firework Maker's Daughter,' written by Phillip Pullman. Children will be looking at the structure of the story, as well as characters involved and then go on to write their own story.

We will also be writing poems with similes, non-chronological reports and tourist guides about China. Remember, you can help your child with their learning by discussing what they have studied during the day's lesson. Encourage them to read every night, listening to them, whenever possible. Remind your child to learn their weekly spelling lists at home.

### Key vocabulary:

**Non-chronological report** - an informative piece of writing based on a given subject that can be written in any order with an opening and closing statement.

setting	character	beginning
problem	resolution	ending author
simile		

## Mathematics

As you are now aware, the children will be working on groups of objectives linked to the following strands of Maths throughout the rest of this year:

- Number and Place Value
- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions and Decimals
- Measurement
- Geometry (Shape and Space)
- Statistics (Data Handling)

This half term, all pupils in Year 3 will be learning to multiply and divide two digit numbers by one digit numbers. We will also be solving problems involving money and statistics.

You can help your child with their Maths by counting forwards and backwards in 3's, 4's and 8's and by practising times tables.

### Key vocabulary:

multiply times divide share

## SCIENCE

This half term Year 3 will be understanding how things travel across different surfaces and learning about different forces.

### Key Vocabulary

forces	gravity
push and pull	
magnetic	friction





# Other Curriculum Areas

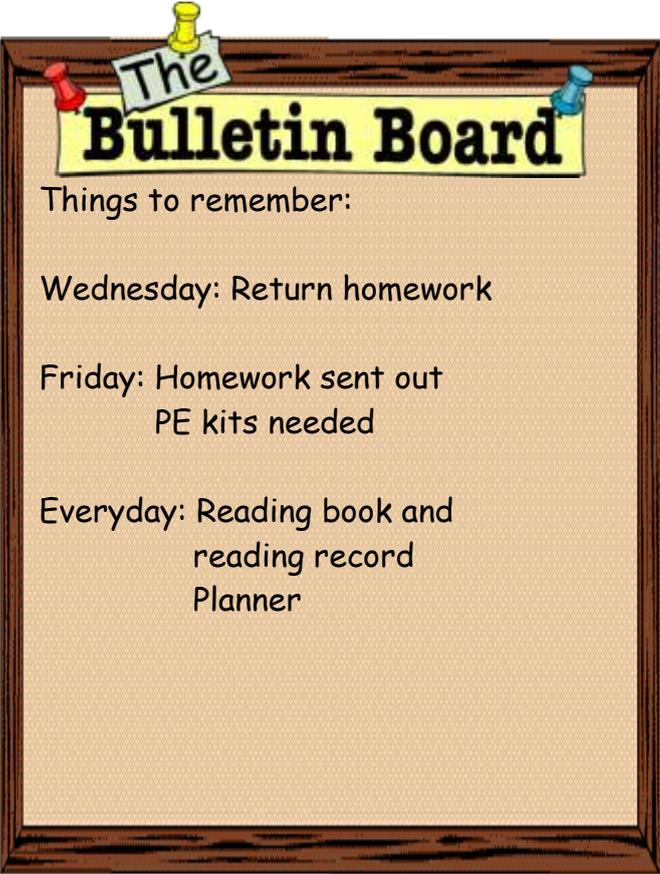
PE - dynamic balance

RE- religion during the Shang period, Chinese Creation Story and Chinese New Year

PSHE - setting goals, overcoming challenges

Music - music during the Shang period

Computing - Using Google Maps to explore places



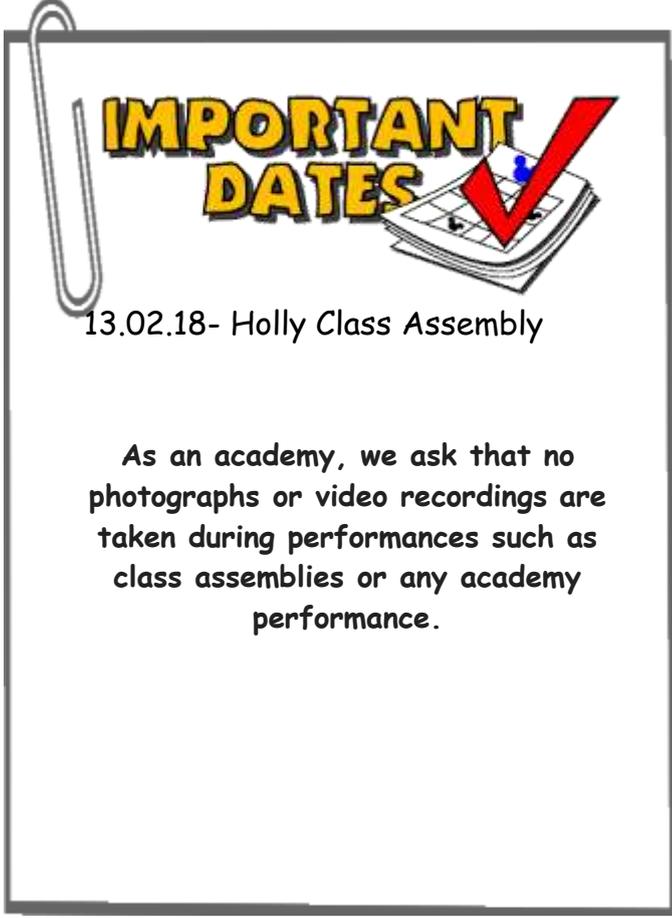
## The Bulletin Board

Things to remember:

Wednesday: Return homework

Friday: Homework sent out  
PE kits needed

Everyday: Reading book and  
reading record  
Planner



## IMPORTANT DATES

13.02.18- Holly Class Assembly

As an academy, we ask that no photographs or video recordings are taken during performances such as class assemblies or any academy performance.

Maths link: <http://uk.mathletics.com/>

Literacy link: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

E-safety link: <http://www.safetynetkids.org.uk/personal-safety/staying-safe-online/>

Topic link: <https://www.kids-world-travel-guide.com/china-facts.html>



It's time to find out

# Let's Go To China!

## Where is China?

We will use Google Earth, maps and an atlas to find out where in the world China is. We will research which countries border it and find out about its major cities and rivers.



## What is China famous for producing?

We will research the things China produce and export. We can compare coal mining with our own past history and explore the paddy fields.



## What are the most interesting places to visit?

We will find out about some of China's main attractions such as the Great Wall and produce factfiles and tour guides of the most popular tourist places to visit.

## Who were the Shang Dynasty and what was life like then?

We will learn about who the Shang Dynasty were, when they ruled and why they were so important. We will think about how we learn about the past and how to decide if sources of information can be trusted or not. We will travel back in time to find out what life was like during the Shang period. We will look at how food was produced and practice using irrigation. Next we will find out about how the army kept control. We will then learn about religion during the Shang period before finishing by listening to music of the time, and having a go at creating our own.

## Let's get arty!

We will learn about why dragons are so important in Chinese culture and in stories. Then we will design, make and evaluate our own clay dragons. We will explore a Chinese Creation story and re-tell it using collage. Finally, we will learn the story of Chinese New Year and draw our own illustrations.