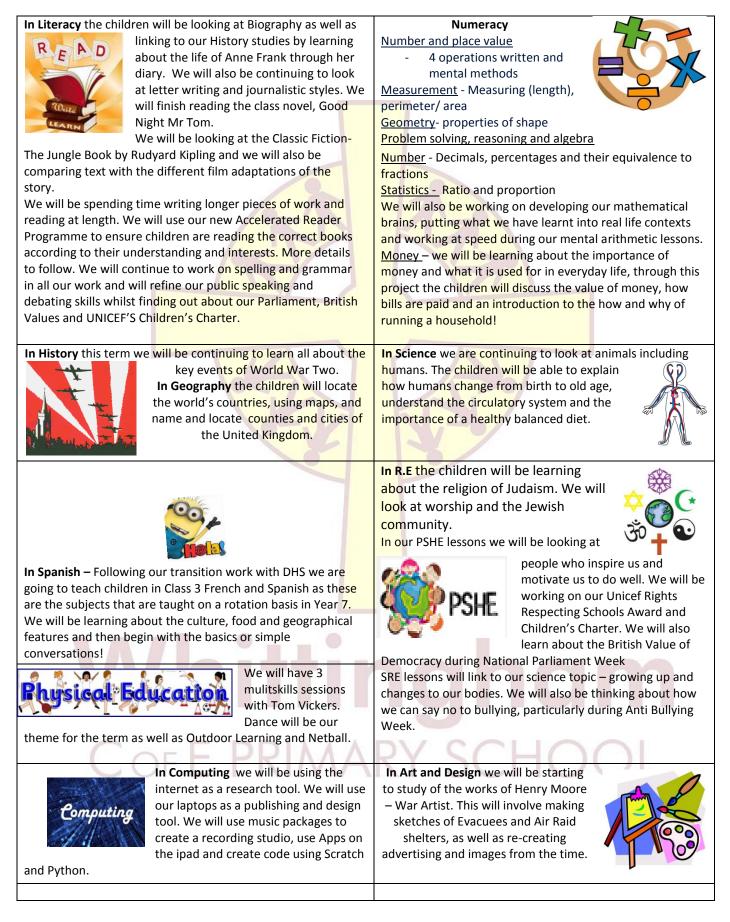


Class Teacher for the duration of Mrs Fletcher's Maternity Leave -



Mrs B Athey



In Music Class 3 will be following the Charanga Music school programme, covering how jazz music developed particularly the music of WW2. We will also focus on analysing performance.

In Design and Technology the children will be designing and making their own World War Two Shelters.





Mondays

Please note that on Monday afternoons all children will take part in Forest School Activities on the school field.

On Mondays please come to school dressed in PE kit as I would like to trial some research that promotes physical activity prior to Literacy and Numeracy lessons.

<u>REMINDER</u>: Please could PE kits be kept in school **all week** so we can continue to develop our positive attitude to Health and Wellbeing and bring as much physical activity into our school day as possible. Old shoes/wellies/ waterproofs should be kept in school or brought in on Mondays for outdoor activities.

<u>Meetings</u>

Occasionally I will need to be out of school for Headteacher's Meetings. I am currently working with experienced Upper Key Stage 2 staff to ensure we have the appropriate cover maintaining standards.

Planners

Please ensure you sign your child's planner and ask your child to tell you about events in school. In preparation for Secondary School I will expect children to write down key dates and instructions and then relay this information to home as this is a key way of communicating in Year 7 and it is important that we prepare our children for the next stages of independent learning.

SATs for Y6

I am very proud to have taught children in this school at key points throughout their time here already. Although Year 6 SATs are important it is also important to remember that the children have had outstanding teaching throughout the school and I will be looking to support them to be the best they can be. This may be through additional targeted support or study skills but will be done in a positive and productive way. A SATs parent session will be held in January, please don't hesitate to ask any questions you may have in the meantime.

<u>Homework</u>

Following feedback in our recent parent surveys about homework, I would like to develop this over the course of this half term with Class 3. I will ask you and your child to feed back at the end of the half term so that I can adapt this while working with staff across the school.

I do not intend to typically increase the amount of homework but I am going to vary the style.

Some of the homework will still have its weekly deadline such as Spellings/ and or Grammar and Abacus Maths Activity (paper based or online).

Children will be awarded a house point for handing homework in on time and then further house points will be awarded for the quality of the homework handed in, particularly if it is a project based activity.

Instructions and expectations will be written in the homework book, Reading Record, in the planner or on School 360 if necessary.

Reading

In Class 3 we are developing children's reading stamina. It is expected that your **child reads for at least 1 hour per week** and this is signed in the Reading Record. I would like the children to comment on the book after they have read it. Examples could include a comment about a key aspect of the story or character such as "I was really nervous when....." or "I don't like the character because ..." As the adult, you could write a question for the children to respond to such as "What is your opinion about... Why?" "What do you think will happen next? Why?" "Are you enjoying this book? Why?" I will hopefully have some examples for you in their records as I would like to focus on reading in our class this week. I am aware that not all children enjoy reading fiction texts all of the time, newspapers and atlases are another good way of demonstrating the purpose of reading. Please continue to ask your child to read their book aloud to you as this is a key skill which is easily lost.

Spellings/ and or Grammar

Spellings will continue this half term although I will be reviewing the lists given to ensure support where needed and challenge. A 10 minute per day approach is best. Please ensure the quality of sentences that are written are high. The English curriculum now has a high emphasis on grammar. We focus on grammar in all our lessons but it is specifically covered in our Grammar Hammer checks on Fridays. Where I think it is appropriate, I will send these out as homework.

<u>Maths</u>

The children will have homework that either consolidates what they are currently learning or introduces a new concept. It may be paper based or online either using Schools 360 or Abacus Maths. All the children should have log in details, if not please ask your child to write a note in their planner and let me know. Anyone who does not have access to a computer, phone, tablet or internet is very welcome to use the online facilities in Class 3 on Friday lunchtimes **12.00-12.30.** I will be in the classroom to ensure the children are safe online and help if necessary.

World Affairs

I feel it is particularly important that children are aware of global issues and current affairs affecting the world around them. I would like the children to either watch an episode of Newsround or the main news per week. If you do not watch T.V this can be accessed on CBBC / BBC i player or your child could read part of your daily newspaper, another way could be just chat in the car while travelling to and from the shops about what is happening in the world today. I am working with a specialist children's newspaper provider to see if we can access their newspaper, First News as it is very relevant and age appropriate. We will chat about about world affairs throughout the week and also as part of our PSHE lessons.

Attendance

Class 3 were the best attenders overall last half term. Y6 had an impressive 100% attendance rate. We are introducing a class attendance trophy which will be awarded to the class with the best attendance during Celebration Assembly on Fridays. Please refrain from taking holidays out of term time. This is particularly important during the month of May.

Project Challenges

Now that we have worked closely with DHS for half a term I am beginning to see a clear pattern of homework expectation. Although it is not necessary age appropriate to mirror it entirely some of the methods that encourage independent research and a longer timescale are generally good practice for our older Primary children.

The challenges for this half term are (Over the course of the school year the challenges will have a balance of subjects). –

Spanish – All about Spain. Design a poster on the A3 paper provided all about this country. You will need to think about the lifestyle, weather, geographical features, food and where it is in the world. Your poster should be eye-catching and informative.

This is due to be in **on or before** Friday 15th December.

PSHE – Research an article from UNICEF's Children's Charter. Decide upon your favourite article and look carefully into what it means. You will need to prepare brief notes as you will be expected to explain why you have chosen the particular article and what is means in simple language.

This is due on or before *Friday* 17th *November* as on this day we will be sharing our thoughts with the rest of the class and hopefully make a film to share with children and adults.

Looking forward to working in Class 3 this term!

Mrs Athey

Whittingham COFE PRIMARY SCHOOL