

Year 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you had a restful Easter break and enjoyed the lovely weather! The children have returned to school in good spirits, ready for their final term in Year 3.

In English this week, we have immersed the children in the concept of understanding non-verbal cues and reading body language, in preparation for their new text *Escape From Pompeii*. This has involved them looking closely at facial expressions and considering the variety of emotions they *could* represent. The children have had drama opportunities to try out their own representations, before composing some descriptive paragraphs where the emotion has been described through action (rather than being made explicit). Although this may seem like a simple task, this has proved to be quite a complex skill!

This week in Maths, we have commenced our broad topic of Fractions. We began by looking at tenths rather than the more obvious halves and quarters, before moving on to exploring fraction pairs to make a whole. This has led us effectively into adding fractions with the same denominator (e.g. $\frac{2}{7} + \frac{4}{7} = \frac{6}{7}$). Please do talk to your children about their work to reinforce their learning. They need to fully understand that fractions are an **equal part of a whole**. Great fun can be had in dividing food into equal parts!

In Science, most of us have continued our work on plants by looking at absorption through the stem as well as looking at the purpose of roots. In order to observe this process, we have placed celery/carnations in coloured water.

In RE, we explored the Passover and Exodus story in relation to Judaism. We were able to examine a typical Seder plate and consider how each of the contents represent a part of the story. We found out about the ten 'plagues' and discussed how the Passover (Pesach) meal is carried out in Jewish homes.

Our votes for schools topic (PSHE) was a debate around whether there should be a three-day weekend. Although this may seem like an obvious answer, there has been quite a debate and raised awareness about the implications this could cause in the working world.

☺ The Year 3 Team

Homework

Maths homework: This has been set on Mathletics. The children are to complete 3 questions involving fractions.

Spelling: New spelling lists have been sent. Please let your teacher know if you have not received a copy.



Date Reminders

All classes have finalised which parent helpers they will be taking on the Gatton Park trip. If you have received a letter, please let your child's teacher know if you can no longer attend. Thank you

Announcement/Reminder

If you have not paid for the Gatton Park and Chessington trip please do so as soon as possible. Many thanks.