

Dear Year 3 parents

Welcome back. The highlight of this term will be our two day residential trip to YHA Losehill Hall in Castleton. This will support learning in the classroom on map skills and comparing the two localities of Heaton Moor and Castleton in our topic entitled, 'Home and Away'.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 16th April. School swimming begins.

Monday May 6th. School closed for May bank holiday.

Tuesday May 7th - Wednesday 8th May. Castleton Residential Trip.

Thursday 26th May. School closes for half-term holiday.

Monday 10th June. School reopens for summer term.

English

We start the term by learning about the life of Mary Anning, a pioneering Victorian palaeontologist. This will be used as a stimulus for a unit on play scripts and their associated features. The children will recount their visit to Castleton and make use of paragraphing together with time connectives as they complete an extended piece of writing .

Spanish

The children will be learning how to ask what the weather is like, '¿Que tiempo hace hoy?' and replying with phrases such as 'Hace sol' or 'Hace viento'.

Physical Education

Children will be learning to play rounders this term (games on Friday) and will be swimming until the end of the summer term. Please do remember your swimming kit on Tuesday morning. Children who are not swimming will be left in a colleague's class.



Mathematics

Immediately after the holiday we will complete a fractions unit looking at the equivalence of simple fractions such as $\frac{4}{12}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$. Learning in fractions will continue when we look at fractions of amounts e.g. $\frac{1}{2}$ of 20 or $\frac{3}{4}$ of 48.

The children will also learn how to use measures of mass and capacity.

Times tables and weekly arithmetic tests continue.

Science

Our Y3 National Curriculum science unit is, 'Rocks and Minerals'. The children will make close observations of sets of rocks. They will then create igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks from chocolate to help them understand how they are formed. The formation of fossils in sedimentary rock is another area of study that most children find exciting with its link to prehistoric creatures. Finally the study of different soils provides further opportunity for practical work.

Computing

The children will create a Google Slides presentation about the 'Three Rocks Walk' that they made during their visit to Castleton. This will be a map with hyperlinks to pages that detail the historical and geographical attractions that they encountered.

Geography

This topic provides the perfect opportunity for map studies. The children will learn about OS maps and the symbols and nomenclature associated with them.

They will build a 3D representation of The Hope Valley. In Human Geography they will debate the pros and cons of tourism in the Peak District and the conflicting demands of residents and visitors.