

# Halstow Primary School

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## Spring 2 Newsletter Year 3

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Dear parents and guardians,

Happy new year! We are so excited to start fresh with a busy term of learning!

### Reading

In Reading, the children will be deepening their reading skills while exploring the text 'Marcy and the Sphinx', along with a range of non-fiction texts linking to our history around 'Ancient Egyptians'.

### Writing

This term, we are beginning with some descriptive writing using our senses linking to 'Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx'. We will then be retelling the story in our own words, focusing on rich, descriptive language and accurate use of inverted commas. We will end the term writing a letter linked to the characters in the story. We will continue to send home spellings, and we will be focusing on these in discrete spelling lessons throughout the week.



### Maths

In Maths this term, we follow the White Rose small steps, and will continue our learning with multiplication and division, unit B. The children have been focussing on the 4- and 8-times tables, please practice on TTRS and there are loads of brilliant songs on you tube to help the children practice. We have been making explicit links to our 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s to help the children understand the facts that they will already know! We will then be moving on to length and perimeter towards the end of term. We are attaching workbooks related to these units, these will give you an idea of what and how your children will be learning, but please bear in mind, that we do adapt Whiterose materials to suit the needs of our learners and adapt our teaching as needed. These can still be a useful tool to pre-teach to support your child's learning or at the end of a unit to consolidate their learning, but please don't panic if your child is unsure about a question or method, it may be that we haven't covered it yet or have approached it in a different way. We are continuing our multiplication programme which will be taught in discrete fluency sessions. These will be daily 10-minute lessons that will involve chanting and daily workbook practice as children come into class in the morning. We will have displays and resources in the classroom to support children in learning their tables.

## Wider Curriculum

In Science, we will be learning about the human body, specifically about skeletal structures and muscles, building on from their learning in Year 2. In History, we will be learning all about ancient Egypt. You will have received an email letter about ancient Egypt day as well as our creative home learning project. **On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February we would love it if children could come to school dressed up for ancient Egyptian day if possible.**

In Art, children will be building on their Geography learning last term around urban and rural landscapes, using pencils and oil pastels to create their artwork. L.S. Lowry and David Hockney will be the sources of inspiration for their artwork. In RE, the children will be learning about Christianity, specifically stories from the Bible. In Computing, we will continue using LEGO spike for Spring term to develop the children's coding skills. In Spanish, children will be learning about fruits.

In PSHE, we will be learning about different types of families, as well as exploring some SRE topics around private parts, body differences, and some NSPCC content around 'privates are private'. Please see the link for more information: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>. They will only be learning the scientific name of their private parts as well as making sure that no one who is not trusted is entering their personal space.

In PE, children will be learning basketball and gymnastics. Miss Cole's class will have outdoor PE on Thursdays and indoor PE on Fridays. Mr Vousdon's class will have outdoor PE on Tuesdays and indoor PE on Thursdays. Please can children wear appropriate clothing for gymnastic days, as they will need to have shoes and socks off, and basketball lessons will be outside, so please make sure children are dressed in warm clothes. It would be preferable not to send your child in with tights/dresses on these days and make sure they have comfortable clothing. Alternatively, you could send your child in with an extra pair of leggings or shorts to keep in their box. The children will be starting swimming NEXT half term, so please look out for a letter later in the term.

If you need to contact us about anything, please get in touch with the school office on [hscontact@halstow.compassps.uk](mailto:hscontact@halstow.compassps.uk) and it will be redirected to the relevant person.

All the best to you and your families,  
Miss Cole and Mr Vousdon