

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<p><b>Fiction: Rats in Paris</b></p> <p>Your child will be learning to retell the story of <i>Rats in Paris</i>. It is designed to consolidate the children's knowledge of narrative structure, i.e., the ingredients that make up a story's opening, build-up, problem, resolution and ending. Further to that, the children will be focusing on effective characterisation (<i>showing</i> the reader what a character is like through a range of literary devices – not <i>telling</i>) as well as more advanced sentence construction in which your child will learn how to use a variety of subordinating conjunctions to express time, place and cause.</p> <p><b>Non-fiction:</b></p> <p>Your child will learn how to write a persuasive letter. This will consolidate their use of more advanced conjunctions such as 'therefore', 'however', and so on.</p> <p>While reading fiction with your child, really question them about how the author is showing the reader what the character is like. For example, ask a question like what word can you see that shows the character is scared?</p>
	<p><b>Nelson Handwriting</b></p> <p>Your child will continue to write with their 'Perfect Pencil Grip' and 'Posture for Writing'. All Year 3 children have been practising their joined-up Nelson handwriting for over a year and have made great progress.</p> <p>Also, those children who have shown real progress with handwriting will be introduced to writing in exercise books without tramlines.</p> <p>You can support your child by ensuring that they sit properly on their chair with their feet on the floor, facing the table with a pencil in their writing hand and their other hand on their work. Please ensure that your child completes their home learning in joined up writing and with a sharp pencil.</p>
Reading	<p><b>Sounds-Write (Phonics)</b></p> <p>We will continue consolidating the children's knowledge of the English phonetic code and using this to support both their reading and spelling of polysyllabic words, e.g., utt/er/ing.</p> <p><b>Whole Class Reading</b></p> <p>This term your child will be reading <i>The Queen's Nose</i> by Dick King-Smith, which will provide opportunities to really embed our key reading skills – particularly sequencing and summarising.</p> <p>Please support by correcting spellings while your child is doing their Home Learning. At Floreat, we are direct when giving feedback e.g. a child spells the word 'accident' with an a &gt; accidAnt, we say "In this word the sound is represented with an 'e'."</p> <p>Read with your child as often as possible! And, crucially, <i>re-read</i> with them. If your child has read a text out loud to you, ask them to re-read it once they have gone through the decoding stage. This will help comprehension. Finally, read it <i>to</i> them. This models intonation and expression when they re-read it for a final time.</p> <p>Ask your child to summarise what they are reading. Challenge them to create summaries of a section of text with fewer than ten words.</p>

Mathematics	<p><b>Maths</b></p> <p>This term your child will be continuing to develop their understanding of measure by gaining experience in measuring, comparing and adding and subtracting mass and capacity using g/kg and l/ml, Year 3 will then develop their fraction knowledge. Children will learn to recognise both unit and non-unit fractions, count in tenths, use diagrams to support finding equivalent fractions, compare and order fractions and be able to add and subtract fractions that have the same denominator. Children will be exposed to related problems throughout the teaching.</p>
	<p>You could help your child by discussing and estimating measurements for household items e.g 'Would I use cm or metres to measure the perimeter of your bedroom?' Additionally, you could use scales to accurately weigh out ingredients when cooking and compare the weights of different items.</p>
Knowledge	<p><b>Science</b> – We will be learning about forces and magnets. The children will compare how objects move on different surfaces by investigating the effects of friction. Further to that, the children will learn about magnetic forces and understand the difference between magnetic and non-magnetic materials through experimenting.</p> <p><b>History</b> – This half term, your child will be learning about the War of the Roses. This will be framed through an exploration of the House of York and the House of Lancaster; how their 32 year struggle between the years 1455 and 1487 culminated with Henry Tudor's victory at the Battle of Bosworth Field and his eventual marrying of Elizabeth of York to unite the two warring factions which, thus, ushered in the Tudor period.</p> <p><b>Geography</b> – Your child will be exploring rivers and basins. They will be building on their knowledge of the water cycle and looking at the river basins features e.g. tributaries, floodplain, delta etc. In addition, they will locate the major rivers around the world.</p>
	<p>You can support your child at home by questioning them about the areas we are studying this half-term and encouraging them to read widely around them too. Any additional knowledge that your child brings to the classroom will be duly celebrated!</p>
Character	<p>This term, your child will be introduced to Mind-Up. This programme of study will teach the children about the key areas of their brain (amygdala, pre-frontal cortex and hippocampus), and how they relate to human emotion. This will help them to self-regulate during times of stress and, ultimately, become mindful people.</p>
	<p>In terms of developing your child's character, really question them. For example, this half-term, challenge your child's judgements – make them reason as to why they make the judgements they do so that they can illuminate different perspectives.</p>
Music	<p>Your child is learning to play either the violin or the viola. As I am sure you are aware, the children are becoming more confident with their instruments and reading music. This will continue into the new year.</p>
	<p>You can support your child by encouraging them to practice little and often. The music tutors recommend 10 minutes per day.</p>
P.E. and Dance	<p>Children will learn how to outwit their opponents and score when playing invasion games. They develop skills in finding and using space to keep the ball. They play with the same basic court set-up and rules, but use a range of equipment and skills, including, passing, tackling, teamwork and sportsmanship skills.</p>
	<p>Please ensure your child brings their PE kit to school every Monday morning. Children should have trousers as part of their PE kit as we teach PE outside when possible.</p>