

# Year 3 Curriculum Letter - Spring Term 2026

Below is an outline of our plans and expectations for this term.

## English

### Reading:

Following the CUSP scheme of work, we will be using four fantastic texts to support us in building our comprehension skills. We will develop our retrieval and inference skills, as well as our abilities to make reasonable predictions and summarise texts.

Our texts are:

- Sam Wu is Not Afraid of the Dark &
- Operation Gadgetman

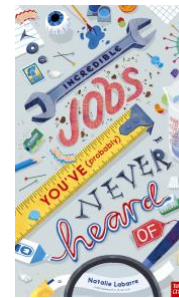
Children will continue to partake in reading practice sessions three times a week.

They will be reading in small groups, with texts suited to their current skill to support progress.



### Writing:

Children will be learning to write a **non-chronological report** about "Incredible Jobs You've Probably Never Heard Of." They will organise information using headings, paragraphs, diagrams, captions, glossaries and indexes, while developing sentence variety, grammar and punctuation skills to clearly inform and engage readers.



### Handwriting:

Handwriting will be practised both in discrete weekly lessons and embedded throughout the curriculum. Children will continue to practise correct joins and letter formation.

### Spelling:

In the first half-term, we will be looking at modifying root words by adding prefixes and suffixes. In the second half-term, we will be exploring homophones, near homophones and statutory spelling words.

## Maths

During this term, we will be furthering our understanding of geometry, statistics, multiplications, division and fractions. This will include covering:

- properties of 2D shapes
- calculating perimeter
- multiplication: 3-, 4- and 8-times tables
- division: 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, and-8 times tables
- fractions: finding discrete fractions, ordering, comparing, adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominators.

## Art & Design:

This term, we will focus on sketching. We will be using a variety of pencils, of differing hardness and blackness, to show tone and texture. We will draw from first hand observations and secondary sources; explore hatching and cross hatching and identify how those techniques can be used to show shadow and light and blend tones accurately.

## Computing:

In Computing, we will become familiar with the terms 'text' and 'images' and 'emojis' and understand that they can be used to communicate messages offline and online. We will use desktop publishing software and consider careful choices of font size, colour and font to edit and improve pre-made documents. They will be introduced to the terms 'templates', 'orientation', and 'placeholders' and



begin to understand how these can support us in making their own template for a magazine front cover. We will add text and images to create pieces of work; look at a range of page layouts, thinking carefully about the purpose of these and evaluate how and why desktop publishing is used in the real world.

In the second half-term we will use Scratch to sequence sounds.

## Design Technology (DT):

The first unit in DT will be mechanisms. We will be exploring how simple mechanisms, such as levers and linkages, can change the direction of movement. We will then design and build a simple lever and linkage product. The second unit is Food and Nutrition, where we will investigate how food affects our bodies and minds. We will also be preparing and cooking a range of vegetables, using a variety of seasonings.

## Geography:

Geography is taught following the CUSP scheme of work. This term, we will undertake a UK Study. We will first revise the countries, capital cities and regions of the UK. Then we will look at the cities and counties of the UK and explore its physical and human landmarks.

Finally, we will observe the topological patterns of the UK and create a presentation on our learning.

## History:

History is taught following the CUSP scheme of work. We will be continuing with our topic of 'Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age'. Children will explore how people lived in Britain after the Stone and Bronze Ages. They will explore Iron Age homes, hill forts, farming, tools and weapons, daily life, beliefs, and how iron changed society, including trade, defence, and community life.

Our trip to Celtic Harmony will be taking place on Wednesday 25th March.

## Leader in Me & The 8 Habits:

At Applecroft School, children learn the '8 Habits' of effective leadership that support their personal development.

This term, we will be learning about the following concepts:

- Prioritising
- Getting and staying organised
- How to achieve goals
- Building character
- Emotional bank accounts
- Thinking 'win-win'
- Acting with courage and consideration
- Standing up for others
- Empathetic listening.

## Modern Foreign Languages (MFL):

In KS2, children will begin to learn French, following the Language Angels scheme of learning. Throughout this term, we will be learning about 'Les Animaux'. In this unit, we will learn the names of ten familiar animals and be introduced to the first-person singular high frequency verb 'I am' in French. By the end of the unit, pupils will be able to recognise, recall, remember and spell up to ten animal names with their indefinite article. This is one of the first sentence building units where pupils will have the knowledge and skills to be able to create short phrases with the verb 'I am' plus the animal nouns and determiners.

## Music:

Our first learning module is titled 'Untuned Percussion' in which we will be exploring different time signatures, including 2/4, 4/4 and 3/4 and notating rhythms.

Our second module, 'Musical Notation' will see children introduced to stave notation and beginning to play and perform music by reading from a musical stave.



## Physical Education (PE):

This term, children will be learning:

- Tag Rugby
- Dance (wild animals)
- Basketball
- Dance (witches and wizards)

Our PE days are Monday and Wednesday.



## Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education (PSHE):

In PSHE, children will learn about manners and positive behaviour. They will explore what it means to be a good role model, how to show respect and kindness, and recognise the people who care for them, helping them build positive relationships at school and beyond.

Our second topic is titled 'Health and Wellbeing'. Here, we will identify hazards around us and learn about risk management; recall fire safety rules; identify how to have a healthy & balanced diet (and the risks of an unhealthy diet) and how to lead a healthy lifestyle.

FIRE SAFETY



## Religious Education (RE) & Worldviews:

This term in RE, we will be learning about Christianity. We will be learning how people are welcomed into the church through baptism and exploring the baptism of Jesus. We will also be exploring the events of Holy Week that led up to the crucifixion and resurrection.



## Science:

In Science, we will be following the CUSP scheme of work. Our first module is titled 'Forces and Magnets'. We will be learning about contact forces, seeing how surfaces affect motion and how friction affects moving objects. We will then move on to non-contact forces, how they differ from contact forces and exploring how magnets work.

Our second module is 'Plants'. Children will build on their existing knowledge and learn the names of various parts of a flowering plant and how a plant uses its leaves to make its food.

## Attendance & Punctuality:

Registration takes place promptly at 8.45am and the school day runs until 3.15pm. Children should arrive from 8.35am for a 'soft start'. Punctuality is important: children arriving in class after 8.45am will be marked as late in the register.

If your child is absent, please inform the school office as soon as possible. Children are expected to attend school every day unless they are unwell.

96+% = good attendance



### Behaviour & Discipline:

Our Behaviour & Discipline policy encourages positive, helpful and socially acceptable behaviour and children are aware of the school's behaviour expectations: to be responsible for yourself and your actions; to be honest, open and reflective; to be kind and supportive; to be respectful and well-mannered. In addition, both classes have created their own class mission statement to support this behaviour and their learning. The green triangle is used to recognise and reward 'valued' (prosocial) behaviours and this system includes stickers, class rewards, house tokens and certificates. There are warnings and consequences for 'detrimental' or anti-social behaviours which do not meet our behaviour expectations.

### Communication:

If you wish to speak with us in person regarding your child, we will be holding a weekly surgery on Tuesdays between 3:20pm and 3:40pm. If you wish to contact you are welcome to speak to us on the gate after school or contact us via the office. We will also be communicating home learning to the children via Google Classroom, so please ensure they regularly log on to check for assignments and messages.

### Home Learning:

Home Learning tasks will be set as Google Classroom assignments, where appropriate. Children are expected to spend between 30 and 45 minutes on most tasks. All home learning will be set on a Friday and will be due the following Friday.

### Key Dates:

- Parent/Carer meeting for Celtic Harmony - Friday 6th Feb - 2:30-3pm
- Year 3 Assembly - Friday 13th February - 8:50-9:20am
- Half Term: Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February
- World Book Day - Thursday 5th March
- Book Fair - Monday 9th March
- Spring Term Open Afternoon - 2:15-3:05pm
- Celtic Harmony Trip - Wednesday 25th March 10:00am-8:00pm
- End of Term: Friday 27th March - 2pm finish.

### Safeguarding:

Should you have any concerns over a child's welfare please contact any of our DSL's via [safeguarding@applecroft.herts.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@applecroft.herts.sch.uk). For urgent safeguarding matters please contact the school office on 01707 323 758. Our DSL's are Mrs Lisa Withe, Mr Paul Wyatt, Ms Ruth Johnson (Lead DSL), Mrs Natalie Clementson, Mrs Carey O'Connor, Miss Eloise Yates & Ms Jale Apicella.

### Staffing in the Year Group:

Miss. Theophile - Year Group Leader, Van Gogh Class Teacher (M, T, W & F)  
Mrs. Entwisle - Van Gogh Class Teacher (Thursday)  
Mr. Chemelal - Hepworth Class Teacher  
Mrs. Buck - Learning Support Assistants (LSAs)  
Mrs. Vilka - Learning Support Assistants (LSAs)  
Mr. Passade - PPA Lead for PE  
Mrs. Wake - PPA Lead for RE  
Mr Wyatt - Phase Leader (covering for Mrs. Clementson).

## Timetable:

### Key Stage Two: Year 3

	8:35 - 8:55am	9:00 - 9:15am	9:20 - 10:20am	10:20 - 10:35am	10:35 - 12:15pm	12:15- 1:15pm	1:15 - 3pm	3:00- 3:15pm	
Monday	Register EML	Music / OPAL Assembly	Maths	B R E A K	Writing	Reading / Reading Practise	PSHE	P.E 2:00-3:00	C L A S S  S T O R Y  T I M E
Tuesday	Register TTRS	Leader in Me 9:00-9:30am	Maths		Writing	Reading / Reading Practise	Cusp		
Wednesday	Register EML	Curriculum Assembly	Maths		Cusp	Reading / Reading Practise	PPA RE	PPA PE	
Thursday	Register TTRS	Leader in Me 9:00-9:30am	Maths		Writing	Reading	French/Arithmetic (Fortnightly)	Music	
Friday	Register EML	Achievement Assembly	Maths		Writing	Reading/ Spellings	Cusp		

### Uniform Expectations:

School Uniform should be worn daily and all items must be labelled. Long hair should be tied back using hair ties in school colours (red & black). Black school shoes must be worn, **not trainers or boots.**

No nail varnish or jewellery is allowed other than a pair of small stud earrings. Our PE kit consists of a white T-shirt and black shorts (no branded items). A plain black sweatshirt or joggers may be worn if the weather is cold. Trainers should be in school every day for the Daily Mile. PE kits should be worn to school on Tuesdays and Fridays.

A small pencil case containing a black writing pen (not a ballpoint), pencil, eraser, sharpener, scissors, glue stick and a small selection of coloured pencils should be in school daily, however children will be provided with any resources they will require. A reading book from school or home should also be in school daily. Watercolour palettes, a brush and art pencils may be brought but are optional.

All stationary items are available in the school shop which is open each morning.