



PURLEIGH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL YEAR 3 AUTUMN TERM 2026



This term our topic will be:
THE INVADERS ARE COMING!

In **English** this term, we'll begin by strengthening sentence work and key writing skills. Children will then write a warning tale inspired by fairy tales, followed by a story of triumph. We'll move on to persuasive writing and poetry linked to the theme of Harvest. Later in the term, we'll explore non-chronological reports and instruction texts. Throughout, children will focus on language choices, text features, and accurate punctuation. Vocabulary and sentence structure will be enriched through reading and cross-curricular topics.

In **Maths** we will continue to use White Rose Maths which has a particular focus on using concrete, pictorial and abstract ways of representing numbers and making links between these to improve understanding. The children will consolidate and further develop their understanding of place value and their skills with addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They will also be working on shape and time.

In **Science**, we will begin by learning about Animals, including humans. The children will be exploring how our skeletons and muscles work together to help us move. They will also be finding out about nutrition, learning about the different types of nutrients our bodies need and the benefits of a healthy, balanced diet. In the second half of the term, our focus will move on to Light. The children will investigate different sources of light, discover how reflections and shadows are formed, and learn about the importance of sun safety.

Computing will start with computer systems and networks. It will also include research using child-friendly search engines, desktop publishing, copy and paste skills and using photos. Alongside this, online safety will be an ongoing focus.

Our **History** will be finding out about Vikings and Roman invaders and settlers. We will learn about how they lived and why they came to Britain. **Geography** will focus on the countries of the northern hemisphere, compass points and identifying and explaining key physical and human features.

In **Art and Design Technology**, we will begin by learning about where, and how, a variety of ingredients are grown, reared, caught and processed. We will then design and make vegetable pitta pizzas. We will go on to study the work of artists' ancient work and use our designing skills to make a Roman shield.

In **RE**, we will be following 'RE Today' Primary Curriculum scheme. This term's units are: 'What is like for someone to follow God?', where we will learn about the Old Testament including the stories of Noah and Abraham, and 'What is the Trinity and why is it important for Christians?'. Pupils will find out about the baptism of Jesus, how Christians show their beliefs about God and the Trinity, and about infant and believers' baptism in the church.

P.E. will be on **Mondays** and **Fridays**. For PE, **long hair needs to be tied back and earrings must be removed**. Please make sure your child is wearing the correct kit (black shorts and purple top) and footwear on PE days. Weather permitting, we will be outside on Mondays for Games, so tracksuit bottoms and tops may be needed on colder days.

Homework: Please see the **Year 3 Autumn Term 2026 homework document on the Class 3 page of the school website**. Our weekly **Homework 'Hand-in Day'** is **Wednesdays**.

Maths homework will be marked together as a whole class, allowing us to address any common misconceptions and celebrate children's successes.

Topic homework should also be submitted on Wednesdays for teacher marking. This will be checked and returned to pupils by Friday to take home.

Photographs of completed Topic homework can also be sent to the class email address (see overleaf) and will be checked alongside work submitted in books.

Weekly Arithmetic tasks and spellings can be found on the Class 3 page of the school website.

Weekly spellings will be **set on a Friday**; a **spelling quiz** will then take place the following **Friday**.

Reading at home remains important at Purleigh School and we encourage children to read every day. **Please record feedback in the reading record book.** These will be checked weekly. Listening to your child read daily will be crucial to their progress. Questioning should play an important role in these sessions as it will allow the children to develop their understanding of texts and comprehension skills. Reading books to your child, which are beyond that of the level they can read independently, will contribute to extending his/her vocabulary and support the development of both reading and writing.

If you need to get in touch with us this year, please feel free to contact us via your child's reading record book, the school office (this is usually the quickest way) or using our email: Year3@purleigh.essex.sch.uk

We're looking forward to working together with you all to make this a fantastic year.
Thank you, Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Crooks.