



# Ely St John's School

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Headteacher: Miss Liz Bassett  
Deputy Head: Mr John Henson

## Year 3 Newsletter: Summer Term 2019

Dear parents,

Welcome back to the summer term at ESJ! We hope you have all had a relaxing Easter break. Accompanying this letter is the summer term topic web and homework project. Please read it and use it over the term to support your child with their learning. You will also find further information and many photos on the Year 3 blog page on the school website.

### Topic and trips

Our new topic is '*Cycling Around The World*', so lots of our learning in different subjects will link to this. Once again, we have planned an exciting event to get children enthusiastic about our new topic. On **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May** Year 3 will be holding a **Bike Day** in school. If the children would like to, they can bring in their bike to demonstrate or show to the rest of the class. If bringing a bike is not an option, then children can bring a scooter or roller skates/blades. Please speak to your class teacher if there are any problems with this.

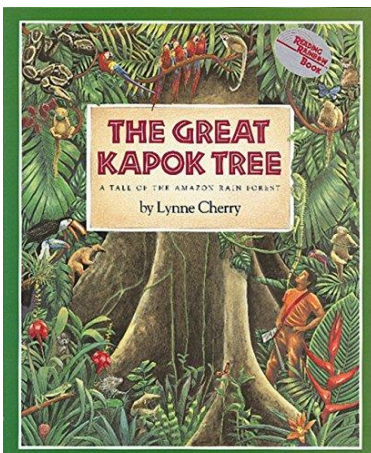


We will draw our own bikes, label parts, look at how they work and compare features.

We need to think about safety to ensure we have a fun morning. Please note:

- Children intending to ride a bike must wear a helmet and their bike must have brakes working and tyres suitably inflated.
- Children intending to ride anything must be competent to do so. If they are still learning and a bit wobbly, please allow them to use stabilisers.
- If you expect your child to wear a helmet when scooting, please ensure they have it with them.

Children should bring their bikes or scooters into school in the morning and park them in the bike park at the back of the hall. Please bring helmets into class. Please ensure everything is clearly named.



Year 3 children will also be busy rehearsing the **play 'The Great Kapok Tree'** this half term. All parents, siblings and grandparents are warmly invited to watch! Once we have decided on which child will play which part, a letter will go home about (simple) costumes. Mrs Jähnigen's and Mrs Pitt's class will perform their play on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 2.30pm**. Mrs Thompson's class will perform on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 2.30pm**. Please come through the entrance hall from 2.15pm to enter the hall and find a seat.

We will hold a **South & Central America Day** in the last half term of this academic year. More information to follow.

### English:

Our first literacy unit will revolve around traditional animal tales from around the world with a particular focus on South American tales. We will be describing characters, setting and morals of stories. We will also be revisiting direct speech and speech punctuation. Eventually, we will write our own **animal tale** based on our learning about South America.

Then we will move on to the **trilogy 'The Boy Who Bike The World'** by Alastair Humphreys and look more closely at travel writing.

### Maths:

To get the children ready for Year 4, we will be doing a lot of short mental maths activities this term (in addition to all other maths areas). The children are very good with their written methods for all four operations now and deciding when to use them. Now we will focus on mental maths so that the children will have better instant recall of number facts (e.g. number bonds to 100) and strategies to use numbers more flexibly (e.g. through partitioning).

This term you will be invited to attend a short meeting about how to support your child with the new national times table test (to be introduced next year when your child is in Year 4) led by our maths co-ordinator Ms Fellows. You will be given details about Maths Rockstar, an online tool to practise times tables and prepare your child for the new test. More information to follow.

### Home Learning

Our new **termly project** will be based on our new topic 'Cycling around the world'. As usual, children are asked to complete at least four different tasks from a selection of activities. Last term the children absolutely loved playing each other's Victorian games and answering the quizzes at the end of their 3-minute-lessons.

Thank you for supporting your child in their times tables practice at home. Most children are now able to recite the 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 times table by heart and answer quick fire questions. We will now include the **8 x table** as well. Useful games for your child to practice times tables online can be found here: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables> (some are tablet-friendly).

We will continue with weekly CLIC tests on Fridays, which will be sent home the following week so that you get a good idea of how your child is doing at school. Going over CLIC tests with your child is a useful activity if your child is struggling in maths.

We will continue to give children **weekly spellings on Mondays** which will be tested the following Monday. Please make sure that the red spelling book comes back to school each week.

### Diary Dates

- Bike Day on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May
- Sharing assembly Mrs Thompson's class Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May
- Summer Performance 'The Great Kapok Tree' on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 2.30pm for Mrs Thompson's class
- Summer Performance 'The Great Kapok Tree' on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 2.30pm for Mrs Jähnigen's and Mrs Pitt's class
- Sharing assembly Mrs Jähnigen's and Mrs Pitt's class Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July

Best wishes,  
Mrs Jähnigen, Mrs Pitt and Mrs Thompson