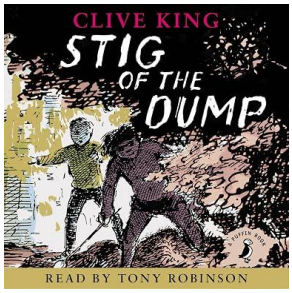
Henry Chadwick Primary School

Year 3/4 Newsletter – Autumn 2 2026





English:

This half term in English, the children will be reading *Stig of the Dump* by Clive King, a classic adventure story about a young boy called Barney who discovers a cave hidden in an old chalk pit and befriends a mysterious Stone Age boy called Stig. Through their adventures together, the story explores themes of friendship, understanding different ways of life and the contrast between modern life and life in the Stone Age. Reading this text will help children will deepen their understanding of the historical period they are studying in History.

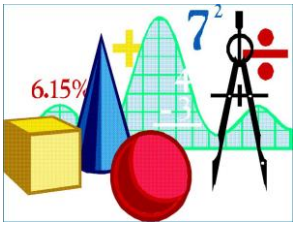
As part of their English lessons, children will explore the features of non-chronological reports, including the use of clear headings and subheadings, factual language, technical vocabulary, paragraphs, labelled diagrams, captions and glossaries. They will use their research and learning about the Stone Age to write their own informative reports about cave people, their homes and the food they ate.

In Reading lessons, children will read a range of texts and answer questions through modelled, shared and independent activities. These lessons will build and strengthen their reading skills (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval and Sequencing), helping them to become more confident and thoughtful readers who can discuss, explain and justify their understanding of a text.

Spelling – Each week we will learn a spelling pattern which will be set on spelling frame. Children have been given new logins, if there are any problems, please let me know.

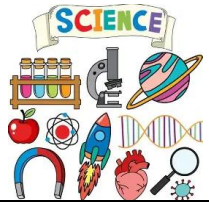
Maths:

This half term, children in Years 3 and 4 will be developing their understanding of multiplication and division. They will build confidence with multiplication and division facts, using known times tables to solve increasingly challenging problems. Children will explore a range of strategies, including grouping, sharing, arrays, number lines and formal written methods, helping them to understand the relationship between multiplication and division. They will also apply their learning to solve reasoning and problem-solving questions, explaining their thinking and choosing the most efficient methods. Regular times table practice will support fluency and help children develop the quick recall skills needed for success across all areas of mathematics.









TOPIC

This half term, will be learning about the Stone Age. Children have already experienced their stunning starter enrichment day where they made clay pots and enjoyed outside activities such as javelin last half term. They will investigate what life was like for people living in Britain during the Stone Age and explore how historians use evidence to learn about the past. Children will discover how people hunted and gathered food, the types of homes they lived in, the tools they made and how life changed over time. As part of their learning, children will study Skara Brae, a remarkably well-preserved Stone Age settlement in Orkney, Scotland, which provides historians with valuable evidence about how people lived, worked and organised their homes thousands of years ago. They will also learn about important developments, such as the move from hunter-gatherer communities to farming settlements. Through analysing artefacts, asking historical questions and making comparisons with modern life, children will develop their understanding of chronology, historical enquiry and how life has changed over thousands of years.

ART

This half term, children in Years 3 and 4 will be exploring prehistoric art, linking their learning

	to the Stone Age. They will investigate how early humans used cave paintings to communicate stories, record events and express their ideas about the world around them. Children will study examples of prehistoric artwork, including the animals, symbols and handprints found in famous cave paintings, and consider the materials that Stone Age people may have used to create them. Using a range of artistic techniques, such as sketching, painting, printing and creating texture, children will produce their own prehistoric-inspired artwork. Through this topic, they will develop their observational skills, creativity and understanding of how art can provide valuable evidence about life in the past. **Science** This half term, children will be learning about electricity and circuits. They will explore how electrical circuits work and identify the different components needed to make a complete circuit, including cells, wires, bulbs, buzzers and switches. Through practical investigations, children will build and test their own circuits, predict outcomes and explain their observations using scientific vocabulary. They will learn how electricity flows through a circuit and investigate what happens when components are added, removed or changed. Children will also develop their enquiry skills by planning fair tests, recording results and drawing conclusions from their findings. This hands-on topic will encourage children to think like scientists while developing their understanding of how electricity is used in everyday life.
	**Computing** This half term, we will be learning about computer networks. They will explore how computers and digital devices are connected to form networks and learn why networks are important in everyday life. Children will investigate the difference between the internet and the World Wide Web, discover how information is shared across networks and understand how devices communicate with one another. Through engaging activities and discussions, they will learn about staying safe online, recognising the benefits and risks of networked technology, and using the internet responsibly. This unit will help children develop their digital literacy skills while building a deeper understanding of the technology they use every day.

Religious Education This half term, children in Years 3 and 4 will be exploring the question, "Where do our morals come from?". They will investigate how people decide what is right and wrong and consider the different influences that shape our beliefs and values. Children will explore how morals can be guided by family, friends, religion, culture and personal experiences. They will learn about the moral teachings found within different religions and worldviews, making comparisons between these and their own ideas about fairness, kindness, honesty and respect. Through discussion, reflection and enquiry, children will develop their ability to express their own opinions, listen to the views of others and appreciate the diversity of beliefs within our community and the wider world.	
PSHE This half term, children in Years 3 and 4 will be exploring the My Healthy Self unit. They will learn about the importance of looking after both their physical and mental wellbeing and develop an understanding of how healthy choices can positively affect their lives. They will also discuss strategies for taking care of their minds, including recognising and managing emotions, building resilience, developing positive relationships and knowing who to talk to when they need support. Through discussions, collaborative activities and reflection, children will develop the knowledge and skills needed to make healthy choices and support their overall wellbeing.	



P.E:
PE takes place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Children will have **swimming lessons every Wednesday**. Please ensure that your child comes to school with their **swimming kit**, including a swimming costume or trunks, a towel and a swimming hat. Children may wear goggles during swimming lessons only if a goggle permission slip has been completed and returned to school. Please make sure that all items are clearly named.

In Tuesday's P.E lessons, children will be developing their gymnastics skills using a range of apparatus in the school hall. They will learn how to travel, balance, jump, roll and perform sequences with increasing control, coordination and confidence. Children will explore different ways of moving safely on, over and around the apparatus, combining actions to create interesting and creative routines. They will also work on improving their strength, flexibility and balance while learning how to evaluate and refine their performances. Through individual, paired and group activities, children will develop teamwork, resilience and an appreciation of how gymnasts use precision and control to perform complex movements safely and effectively.

Please ensure children are wearing their full PE kits with appropriate trainers, not Astro turf or Canvas shoes. Children must have earrings removed for P.E lessons.



Reading
The children will be bringing home either a banded book or a free reader from the library. We cannot express enough the importance of hearing your children read regularly and asking them questions about the book that they are reading. This builds up a range of skills that are vital to your child's progress in all areas of the curriculum. The expectation is that children read at home at least three times a week and that this is recorded by an adult in their planners.

Golden Mile
Each afternoon we will be going outside to take part in the 'golden mile' by either walking or running. This is not competitive, and the children will only do what they can and are comfortable with.

Homework
Weekly homework will be set via the school website and sent home on a paper copy if requested. Homework will be set each week on a Friday and returned on a Wednesday for marking.

Communication
We will continue to inform you of your child's achievements through text messages.
Please remember that the door is always open and if you have any concerns or queries, we will happily meet you at a convenient time to discuss these.

Important dates coming up
Friday 27th November and Monday 20th November INSET DAYS
Friday 4th December Free dress day Tombola
Tuesday 8th December Christmas concert
Thursday 10th December KS2 Strictly come dancing day
Friday 18th December – Santa dash – last day of term

Mrs Thurstance.