

Year 3 Overview

Welcome to Year 3, where learning is purpose driven, inspired and encourages high expectations, with the well-being of the learner at the centre of it all.

Year 3 is a transition year, as students move towards meeting the outcomes of the next level within the curriculum. Here at the British School, we are aware of this transition, holding it in balance with meeting each individual learner's needs.

The classroom programme is divided into three major units which align with the three terms of the school year. In term one, our first unit is a major design and technology unit called 'Once Upon a Playground' in which we will 'Whizz, Ding, Bang and Click' - through the designing and making of 'Playground Gadgets'. In term two, we will have a classic history approach to learning, focusing on a topic which holds intrigue for us all, 'Ancient Egypt'. During term three, our theme will be 'Our Changing Earth', linked to Geography, History and Science. Through this we will explore natural earth changing events such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, as well as study rocks and soils in Science.

The art of writing will be linked to our major units of study. Through these units we will explore various genre, such as narratives, instructions, explanations and poetry. We will use these contexts to continue to develop our grammar, alongside our whole school weekly spelling programme. The Year 3 class will also continue to develop and refine their handwriting and written presentation skills by continuing to practise and apply a cursive handwriting style.

In Year 3 at the British School of Bern we continue to highly value reading as one of the core curriculum areas. This fundamental skill allows children to access all other areas of the curriculum. We have a successful scaffolded reading scheme, in which the children read appropriate books at their current reading level. They read every night and at school in both one on one, shared and guided reading lessons.

Our Mathematics programme will consolidate working with numbers to 1000 in addition and subtraction. In multiplication and division, the children will begin to work with the 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 times tables. Number work in the four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division is also applied to other mathematical areas such as money, fractions and measurement (weight, length, capacity and time). Additionally, we will focus on geometry (2D and 3D shapes and symmetry), angles and data handling throughout the year.

In Year 3, the students will extend their formal German lessons, with a specialist German Language teacher. The classes are divided into Native and Non-Native speakers. There are three allocated German lesson times each week. The students also have a Music lesson with a specialist Music teacher once a week, in addition to attending choir, as well as having beginner recorder lessons.

The British School has quick access to excellent gym facilities at a neighbouring Swiss school. In Year 3 we have planned Physical Education lessons once a week with the year two class with a PE teacher. We also have a fall and spring swimming programme and winter ski and ice-skating programmes, which the Year 3 class take part in every Friday afternoon.

This year in PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education), the heart of our Year 3 focus will be on important values which make our classroom and school a positive place to be. Every week we will explore a value with 'Our Class Wheel of Values'. These values will be central to our classroom culture and how we as students and teachers respect and care for each other.

We have an exciting year ahead of us in Year 3, our cosy gem of a class at The British School of Bern, where the greatest treasures are our students!