

## Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2019 – Year 3

Term	Topic
Autumn first half term	What makes the Earth angry?
Autumn second half term	When did people start using stone to their advantage?
Spring Term	How did the discovery of metal change the way people lived? How have our school grounds changed over time?
Summer Term	How did the Romans set out to rule the world?

### AUTUMN:

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We will cover three different units focussing on different themes within our religion. These are:

- **Homes** – children will learn about God's vision for every family.
- **Promises** – children will find out about the promises which are made at Baptism.
- **Visitors** – this topic focuses on waiting for the coming of Jesus.

The children will also have the opportunity to learn a little about the faith of Judaism. Pupils will study various aspects of Judaism for one week, including their special days, special places, how they live as a family and how they worship.

#### ENGLISH      Reading

We will be reading a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts with children discussing key features of texts and developing comprehension skills. In school reading experiences will vary between independent reading, guided reading (focussed group with teacher) and whole class reading. For maximum progress to be made, it is vital that children are also reading with an adult on a daily basis at home.

#### Writing

This term we will be looking at reading & writing:

- Instructions
- Non-fiction Reports
- Poetry
- Adventure Stories

Within each genre we will look at the key features and learn to recognise and use these within our own writing.

#### Spelling

Certain rules will be taught weekly in school, and given to practice as homework. Children should

- Learn selected words given as homework
- Learn words from the Years 3 and 4 word 'Statutory' list

#### Grammar & Punctuation

We will be learning about the importance of proof reading our writing to check for grammatical sense and correct use of punctuation. The children will be expected to be able to use capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks. They will also be introduced to inverted commas to punctuate direct speech.

In their written work children will be expected to use a range of conjunctions [for example, when, before, after, while, so, because], adverbs [for example: likely, quietly, quickly] and prepositions [for example, before, after, during, in, because of].

### MATHEMATICS:

Times tables are the most valuable home learning – especially if it is taught to a level of instant and 'random' recall (e.g.  $36 = ? \times 9$  is an example of a randomized question from the x4 table).

We aim to cover the following topics this term:

- Place value (reading, writing, comparing and ordering numbers)
- Measuring (using and converting between mm /cm/m)
- Addition & Subtraction (mental and formal written methods)
- Measuring - reading scales (thermometers, force meters, weighing scales, etc)
- Division and multiplication (practical and mental methods)
- Fractions (recognise and write fractions of amounts and objects)

## **FRENCH**

Children will begin to learn how to speak French this term. They will learn simple conversation and key vocabulary – days of the week, numbers, and months, etc.

## **TOPIC STUDIES**

### **SCIENCE - Rocks (Autumn 1<sup>st</sup> half-term)**

The children will: compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties; Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock; Recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter

### **Animals, including humans (Autumn 2<sup>nd</sup> half-term)**

Children will learn to Identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat; identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement.

### **GEOGRAPHY – Mountains and Volcanoes (1<sup>st</sup> half-term)**

The children will learn about physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle. They will use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied, and also locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities.

### **HISTORY Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age (2<sup>nd</sup> half-term)**

Children will study topics from the following: late Neolithic hunter-gatherers and early farmers, for example, Skara Brae; Bronze Age religion, technology and travel, for example, Stonehenge Iron Age hill forts: tribal kingdoms, farming, art and culture.

### **DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY Making a Volcano (1<sup>st</sup> half-term)**

DT - Generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through discussion, annotated sketches, cross-sectional and exploded diagrams, prototypes, pattern pieces and computer-aided design

Select from and use a wider range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their functional properties and aesthetic qualities

Evaluate their ideas and products against their own design criteria and consider the views of others to improve their work

### **ART Cave paintings and Stonehenge Art (2<sup>nd</sup> half-term)**

Art - Links to 'Stone Age to Iron Age' topic. Pupils to improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials [for example, pencil, charcoal, paint, clay]

**TERM DATES: Dates**– Please check the weekly newsletter and website for the most current information regarding masses, concerts etc

## **DAYS AND DATES**

Weekly lessons:

- Mondays and Thursdays –3D PE
- Wednesdays and Thursdays – 3W PE
- Thursdays – Music (Recorder)

Dates this term:

### **September**

- Parent Information Evening – 11th September 6pm
- Welcome Mass - 12th September 10am
- Macmillan Coffee morning – 27th September

### **October**

- Harvest Liturgies – 14th October (Juniors 10am)
- Parent Consultation Meeting – 17th October (school closes at 2:00pm)
- Half term – 18th October (return to school on Monday 28th October)
- Individual school photographs – 30th October
- Family of God Mass – 31st October 10am

### **November**

- Natural History Museum trip – 13<sup>th</sup> November
- Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Mass – 27th November

### **December**

- Advent Liturgies – 3rd December (Juniors 10am)
- Pantomime/ Christmas lunch – 11th December
- Christmas Carol Service - 16th December 2.00pm /18th December 6.30pm
- Last day of term (school closes at 1.30pm) – 20th December

## **Communication with parents**

It is very important to us as a school that we work in partnership with parents. Therefore we welcome any feedback you can give us about your child and their experience in school. If you have any concerns or worries, please see your child's class teacher Mrs Williams or Miss Doherty. You will also be allocated a slot to meet your child's teacher on Parent Consultation Evening on October 17<sup>th</sup>.