

Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2026 – 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

In Autumn we will be covering 2 different topics in RE

1. **Creation and Covenant** - Humans are made in the image of God. The story of Creation. Stewardship and Social Teaching about human dignity.
2. **Prophecy and Promise** - Sunday is a holy day. Celebration of Mass. That the angel brings God's message. Advent.

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.

Little Wandle books will be sent home each week on Thursdays. We will be reading 1 chapter a day (for those who are on chapter books). These are to be brought back to school every Monday.

Please sign your yellow Reading Record daily. These will be checked once a week in school.

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
- Addition and Subtraction - mental and formal written methods
- Multiplication and Division - practical and mental methods

Spanish

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

TOPIC STUDIES

SCIENCE - Rocks (Autumn 1st 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 2nd 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 – Volcanoes and Earthquakes (1st 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 (2nd half-term)

Children will study topics from the following: late Neolithic hunter-gatherers and early farmers,

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY Making a Volcano (1st half-term)

DT - Generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through discussion, annotated sketches, cross-sectional and exploded diagrams

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

There will also be a focus on sharing bread. Tasting and making.

ART Cave paintings and Stone age Art (2nd 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]

Weekly lessons:

- Tuesday and Thursday PE
- Wednesday AM – Spanish
- Wednesday PM – African Drumming

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 contact your child's class teacher Mr Gauci or Mrs Rossi/Mrs Williams via the school office, or approach us at the end of the school day. We will post updates on ClassDojo.

Home Learning

Home learning will be set every Friday and is due on the following Wednesday. We will be using Google Classroom as our Home Learning platform, as well as My Maths, TT Rockstars, Purple Mash and Duolingo (Spanish). Please read the home Learning sheets carefully to ensure you have completed each task on the appropriate platforms.