

Curriculum Newsletter Spring Term 2020 – Year 3

Term	Topic
Spring First Half	How did the discovery of metal change the way people lived?
Spring Second Half	How have our school grounds changed over time?

RE

We will cover 3 different units focussing on different themes within our religion. These are:

Journeys - Christian family's journey with Jesus.

Listening and Sharing – Jesus gives Himself to us in a special way / the Word of God and sharing in Holy Communion.

Giving All - Lent, a time to remember Jesus' total giving.

The Year 3 children will continue their preparations for the First Holy Communion. Please continue to share your child's homework in their special Communion book, following class on Wednesdays, and make sure that they have their Communion book packed on a Tuesday night, ready for the following Wednesday's lesson.

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 (focused 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

Skills will be developed through learning of the features and style of writing in

- Mystery stories
- Myths and Legends
- Dialogue and Plays
- Poetry: Language play

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

Spelling

New prefixes will include 'sub'; 'tele..'; 'auto..'; 'super..'

Suffixes including **revision of** '..ness/..less/..ful/..ly'; Practise of suffixes including '..sion/..ssion'; '..sure/..ssure';

Strategies when writing, including '**Attempt spellings using phonics**', **use of word books** and familiarity with **homophones**.

Children will also continue working on the Years 3 / 4 Statutory list, their own personal target spellings list and any outstanding areas from Year 2 and from Term 1 of Year 3.

Children will be encouraged to develop their proofreading and editing skills, to ensure they apply their spelling knowledge as accurately as possible.

Learning and practicing spellings

Pupils:

- Learn selected words taught in new knowledge this term.
- Learn words from the Years 3 and 4 word list.
- Learn words from personal lists.

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 to demarcate sentences. 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: in, around, towards, over, at].

Mathematics

Pupils across the school work through the same unit topics and activities are differentiated to meet their individual needs.

In addition your children should be practising their times tables at home in preparation for our weekly test.

We aim to cover the following topics this term:

- Division and multiplication (written and mental methods)
- Geometry – 2D shape, angles, parallel and perpendicular lines
- Securing number facts and relationships – including investigations and algebra
- Addition & Subtraction methods – including money problems
- Statistics – pictograms, bar graphs, Venn and Carroll Diagrams
- Measurement – time and perimeter

Topic

Plants – children will identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers, explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow), investigate the way in which water is transported within plants, explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants.

Changes in Britain from Stone Age to the Iron Age – Focus on Bronze Age and Iron Age. Children will be looking at how we find evidence from our landscape and from ancient history that tells us about Britain in the distant past. Children will learn about Bronze Age and Iron Age farming, art and culture. The children will also be learning about types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water.

Local area study - Children will be using fieldwork to observe, measure record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies.

PE - Please note the change of PE day: 3D Monday and Wednesday. 3W Wednesday and Thursday. It is important for children to have a full PE kit for each PE session. We shall continue to aim for three 'Daily Mile' runs each week.

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

- My BNK workshops 16/1/20, 30/1/20, 13/2/20
- Mass for Vincent Pallotti (juniors) – 22nd January
- Open Evening - 13th February– school closes at 2pm
- Our Lady of Lourdes Mass – 14th February 10am
- Half term- Monday 17th-Friday 21st February
- Year 2/3 reading workshops – 25/2/20 2.30pm, 27/2/20 6pm
- Ash Wednesday prayer service in the Church- 26th February
- Barnes Wetlands trip – 03/3/20
- World book day – 5th March
- 3W class assembly – 09/3/20
- St Patrick’s Day Mass – 17th March 10am
- 3D class assembly – 23/3/20
- Holy week liturgy in Church 2nd April 10.15am
- Last Day of term for Morning Nursery and Main School – 3rd April - school closes at 1.30pm

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/s; Miss Doherty, Mrs Williams and Mrs John-Lewis. There will be a parental consultation evening on February 13th, when you can discuss your child’s progress with your teacher.