

St Francis' Catholic Primary School

Spring Term 2017 - Curriculum Newsletter



Year 3

Year Group and Staff

Year 3

Teachers: Mr Reily & Mr Kiernan

Support Staff: Ms Lena, Ms Foster, Ms Leachman, Ms Chase & Ms Kench

English

The Year 3 Children really enjoyed reading 'Gregory Cool' and 'Charlotte's Web' last term. Both stories inspired excellent pieces of writing, including stories, reports and instructions. This term the children will read 'The Hodgeheg' by Dick-King Smith and 'The Great Kapok Tree' by Lynne Cherry. Using both books the children look for examples of adverbs and adverbial phrases. They will begin to write dialogue, using inverted commas correctly and interesting reporting verbs. There will also be a focus on using complex and compound sentences as children get to write an animal adventure story inspired by Max, the protagonist of 'The Hodgeheg.' 'The Great Kapok Tree,' a story about the rainforest will also inspire lively class debates and persuasive writing.

Maths

Children will learn mental addition and subtraction strategies, problem solving and reasoning looking at patterns and relationships and making predictions. They will identify $1/2$ s, $1/3$ s, $1/4$ s, $1/6$ s, and $1/8$ s; realise how many of each make a whole; find equivalent fractions; place fractions on a 0 to 1 line and find fractions of amounts. Children will learn to tell the time to the nearest minute on analogue and digital clocks.

Science



Animals Including Humans

Pupils in Year 3 will find out about food groups and healthy balanced diets. Study the human digestive system and how food is transported around the body, investigate skeletons and look closely at bones, joints and muscles and compare with animal skeletons. They will also discover effects of exercise. This topic always excites the children, hopefully we will see the beginnings of some future doctors in Year 3.



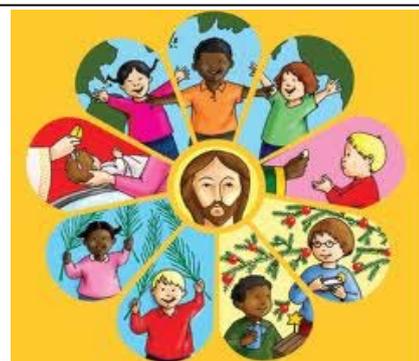
RE

Special Places—Exploring how the world is a special place, what places were special for Jesus and discussing our own personal special places.

Citizenship Week: A Better World' 'Something small can make a difference'

Listening & Sharing - Jesus gives himself to us

Giving All - Lent: remembering Jesus' total giving



PE

Lessons will take place on Monday morning during the first half term. In the second half of the term the children will start swimming; these lessons will take place on Monday afternoons.



Please ensure that your child brings appropriate PE kit on Monday and takes it home to wash on a Friday.

For swimming children will need the appropriate swimming costume. Girls will need a one piece swimming costume (no bikinis) and boys will need swimming trunks. All children will need swimming hats and towels. They should also bring a plastic bag to put their wet items in once their swimming lesson has finished.

Music



We will continue to learn how to play the recorder, as well as learning the songs we will sing in our Holy Week Assembly at the end of term.

In recorder we will consolidate our learning with notes played by the left hand and go onto learn right hand 'e'. Recorders are still available to buy from school via ParentPay—a great way to support your child's learning at home!

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History & Geography

Stone Age to Iron Age — Children will explore how archaeologists worked out when the Stone Age was ending by finding the Neolithic town of Skara Brae. They will discuss why copper mining was so important to Bronze Age people. They will also find out about Stonehenge, hill forts and how the discovery of iron changed everything for early humans.

Study of the Local Environment — Pupils will use locational language to describe the location of points on a map of Stratford. They will also plan a tour of the Stratford, which includes a map with a key. They will also take digital photographs of the main features of the local area and plot them onto their maps.



Computing



We are Communicators

In this unit children will learn about emails, how emails get from one computer to another and how to send and use email safely.

We are Presenters

Children will learn to record video, shoot their video and then edit it. They will give each other feedback and then try and improve their video.

PSHE



In the first half of the term we will have our whole school focus on citizenship. The theme this year is 'A Better World: Something small can make a difference.' Year 3 will focus on recycling and environmental issues.



Homework

Children are expected to complete their own homework, however, **parents need to sign it before it is handed in to confirm that homework is of an acceptable standard.**

Homework is given out on **Friday** and is due back on **Tuesday**. If homework is not returned on Tuesday it will not be marked.

Extra! Extra! Read all about it!



Please read with your child every day and ask them questions about the book. Please sign the reading journals once you have heard them read. The home/school reading books must be brought in to school every day and will be changed at least once a week.

Books will not be changed unless an adult has signed the reading journal.

French

Children will start by learning to say their age in French. They will also learn the names of animals and foods in French and will start to use these words in phrases.

