

Year 3 Newsletter Autumn Term 1 2023

'Prehistoric' Themed Half Term



Year 3

Mrs Hodgson
Mrs Auld
Miss Hazar (Wednesday pm - Friday)
Miss Quenby (Friday pm)

Welcome back! We hope you had a restful and happy summer holiday and are just as excited as us to be starting a new school year.

If you have any queries or concerns about your child's progress or well-being, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to speak to me.



Important Days

Wednesday

Spelling test each Wednesday. Starting on 13.09.23

Wednesday and Friday

PE lessons - full kits needed with trainers. Children will change into their PE kits.

Friday

Reading diaries should be signed by parents and reading recorded in them. Please ensure your child has read 5x per week.

Children should bring their reading diaries and school books into school every day. Please also ensure that children only bring book bags and draw string bags into school.

Please label all uniform.

RE

During this term, the topic in RE is called 'The Christian Family'. Children will learn to know what it means to belong to the family of the Church. We will also reflect on how the family of the Church helps us. The children will also be exploring baptism by looking at the signs and symbols used during this sacrament. They will also reflect on the meaning of the Sacrament of Baptism and what it means to them.



English

The year will start with a novel called 'Stone Age Boy' which will link to our topic 'The Stone Age'. This will be a great stimulus to develop our vocabulary, incorporate role play, look at settings and write in role as characters. We will focus on using punctuation correctly. This will include checking for full stops and capital letters, using apostrophes, commas, question marks and exclamation marks. We will be carrying out these skills through writing diaries and letters. The children will be learning to take ownership of their writing to make sure we are checking, editing and self-assessing their learning. In handwriting, we will be focusing on continuing to form letters of a consistent size and the use of joined-up cursive handwriting.



Maths

We will be identifying, representing and partitioning numbers to 100 before extending this to numbers to 1000. We will be estimating numbers on a number line, finding 1, 10 or 100 more or less than a given number, recognising the place value of each digit in a three-digit number (hundreds, tens, ones) and also comparing and ordering numbers up to 1000. The children will also be adding and subtracting 1, 10 and 100. We then build up to adding and subtracting 2 digit and 3 digit numbers. Next, we will explore using the inverse operation to check answers to calculations. Children will be practising their maths KIRFS targets of recalling number bonds to 20 and counting forwards and backwards in 50s and 100s.



Science

In Science, Year 3 will compare and group together a variety of different rocks. They will explore how they differ, carefully look at what their properties are and learn about everyday uses for rocks. We will be visiting Meanwood Valley farm to enhance our learning about rocks and soils and carry out investigations to determine physical properties of rocks. We will also investigate how soil is made and link this to writing instructions in Science. Year 3 will learn how fossils are formed and study Mary Anning, a famous fossil hunter.



Art

Year 3 will draw on inspiration from the Stone Age to design and make their own clay pots. They will practise and use the technique of coiling to make them. Finally, they will evaluate their pots reflecting on their final design.



Computing

This half term, the children will be using 'Scratch' to create a story on Scratch that incorporates animation through coding instructions. The class will be ensuring that they can save and retrieve their work from their folders. The class will also be revisiting the importance of staying safe online and discussing what 'Stop, Block, Tell' means.



MFL

In MFL, we will begin our learning journey by counting to 20 in French. We will play lots of games to help the children with this. We will then move on to revisiting greetings previously learnt in Year 2 and build on this knowledge to extend vocabulary.



Music

We will learn to understand that a piece of music is made of different sections. We will be singing songs and learning how to use good posture and breathing. During the term we will develop our understanding of tempo, pitch, beat, timbre, and texture and aim to be able to identify them within the different music that we listen to.



PE

In PE, the children will be developing their skills in team games. They will learn about the importance of warming up before exercise and the benefits exercise has on our own physical and mental wellbeing. They will be practising throwing and catching with control and accuracy and to pass to teammates at appropriate times. They will also be working on improving their fitness, strength and accuracy within ball games.



PSHE

This half term, the focus is on 'mental health and emotional wellbeing'. Children will be setting their personal and class targets for Investors in pupils. They will consider what they would like as a class reward. We will be discussing what makes us special and celebrating our gifts, talents and strengths. Year 3 will be developing their growth mindset this half term focusing on dealing with setbacks and how to overcome them.

History

Year 3 will begin with learning all about the Stone Age and learning that it is split into three main time periods the Palaeolithic era, Mesolithic and Neolithic. We will be placing dates onto timelines and understanding the terms BC and AD. We will explore that people in the Stone Age were known as hunters-gatherers and that this is someone who lives by hunting, fishing and gathering wild food. We will explore why people in the Stone Age were hunter-gatherers and our understanding of this time period will be enhanced through a workshop in school. We will be reading around this subject to find out new facts and understand vocabulary related to this topic. We will plan to write a fact file about this time period and apply all the skills we have learnt in English.



Homework

- Athletics/ Times Table Rock Stars
- Spelling Shed tasks
- Reading Eggs
- Reading the school reading books 5 times per week for 15 minutes minimum, but longer reading time is preferable to build reading stamina
- There is a homework grid on Year 3's class page for optional extra tasks.

Our School Homework policy is available on the school website.

Ways to Help Your Child

At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, we believe that strong school-parent links are an essential part of ensuring our pupils achieve their potential. We really appreciate the support you give your children at home in order to help them with their learning.

Please ensure that you **listen to your child reading their school reading book 5x's per week** and write each time you listen in their homework diaries; listening to your child will improve their reading ability and boost their reading motivation and enjoyment.

The children's maths KIRF target this half term is to recall number bonds to 20 and to count forwards and backwards in 50s and 100s. These facts are important to support them in other areas of their maths learning so please ensure to practise these regularly. As always, support given to children at home is invaluable and if you need any help with this please ask.