



St. Mary's C.E. School
Year Three - Autumn 1
September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 3! I hope you all had an excellent summer break. We are looking forward to helping the children make their transition from KS1 to KS2. In Year 3, children are expected to be more independent and take on more responsibility for themselves, their property and their learning. If you have any questions please email via the PACT system.

Our topic this term will be 'Scavengers and Settlers'. This will take us on a journey through the timeline of human beings from Early Man to Iron Age Man. We shall explore this topic through a range of subjects.

We will celebrate our learning at the end of our topic with a sharing session during which the children will present their learning. We hope that you will be able to join us and see what we have been learning.

We have already worked on putting together our class charter. This relates to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child (UNCRC) and has helped us to discuss our rights and responsibilities as both children and adults, to ensure that these rights are upheld.

English:

In English, we will be reinforcing the grammar, spelling and punctuation that we learned in Year Two as well as looking at dialogues, play scripts and writing recounts. For our first Power of Reading book will be following the adventures of Hogarth in Ted Hughes' tale of 'The Iron Man'.

Maths:

In Maths we will be looking at:

- Using multiples of 5 and 10 bonds to 100 to solve additions and subtractions.
- Comparing and ordering 2- and 3- digit numbers.
- Multiplication facts for the 5, 10, 2, 4 and 3 times tables.
- Doubling and halving.
- Knowing and understanding the calendar (including days, weeks, months and years).
- Telling time to the nearest five minutes.
- The properties of 3D shapes.
- Fractions and fractions of numbers.
- Using money.

History

We will be looking at Early Man to the Iron Age. We will be:

- Finding out how fossils are made and what we can learn from them.
- Finding out about our earliest ancestors.
- Exploring the skills our ancestors needed to survive.
- Using evidence to find out about a prehistoric hunter
- Finding out about a river valley civilization.
- Finding out about a Stone Age village.
- Finding out about Bronze and Iron Age cultures.

RE:

In RE this half term, we will be asking the question: 'What is the Bible's big story?' We will explore how The Bible came into being, how we got The Bible we use today, whether The Bible has many plots or one plot, why The Bible is sometimes referred to as a map for Christian life, what The Bible teaches about faith and what faith means to us as well as how Christians have shown faith and show faith today in spreading the 'Good News'.

Computing:

In Computing, we will be building on the touch typing skills we began developing in Year 2. We will also be learning how to code with HTML. As part of our IPC topic, we will also be learning and developing our general computer skills and look at the internet as a source of information.

ART:

Mrs Forsyth will provide specialist teaching of Art lessons. This half term, inspired by the topic of 'Early Man', we will look at the prehistoric drawings on the walls of the famous caves at Lascaux, Ruffignac and Pech Merle in France. We will use charcoal and soft pastels to create a variety of line drawings of animals living at this time.

Music:

This half term in Year 3 we will be concentrating on how to improve our singing technique and sing with an awareness of shape to bring songs to life. We will also compose a pentatonic ostinato to accompany a song, which will be recorded so that we can listen to the whole piece and complete our first written evaluation of a composition we have created.

Technology:

We will look at:

- How the way in which products in everyday use are designed and made affects their usefulness.
- Designing and making products to meet specific needs.
- Making usable plans.
- Making and using labelled sketches as designs.

PE:

Year 3 will be participating in PE lessons on a Tuesday, with Mr Ellis and on a Wednesday with Miss Barrett. This half term's activity will be basketball. Pupils will focus on dribbling with changes in speed and direction and perform a variety of passes. In addition the class will practice their set shot, link dribbling, passing and receiving. These skills will be applied through a range of co-operative and competitive games.

PSHE:

Our theme is Being Me In My World. This will involve learning about helping others to feel welcome, making our school community a better place, thinking about other people's feelings and working well as a team and thinking about the right to learn.

FRENCH

This year, we are lucky to have specialist teaching by Mme. Cox in French every Monday.

READING

Each child will be part of a Guided Reading Group where they will take part in shared reading. We will discuss the book and complete a focused learning task based around the text. This task will be completed in our quiet reading sessions in the week. They must also read a book in our independent reading sessions. Children are expected to read at home every night for at least 15 minutes.

FLUTE

We will be having Flute lessons on a Thursday afternoon. Your child will be provided with a flute to use. Please ensure that your child remembers to bring in the flute every Thursday. It is also essential that your child practices every week.

Regards,

Miss Barrett and Mrs Pometsey (TA)

HOME LEARNING
Maths and English: (Handed out on Wed to be handed in Tue) Maths and English homework should be completed in the Maths or English homework book. Can you please ensure that: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. All work is presented clearly.2. Anything that needs to be stuck in books, is trimmed and then stuck in.
Spellings and times tables: Tests will be on a Friday.
Reading: <u>Daily for at least 15 minutes each evening.</u> It is important that the children read aloud to you regularly and they also benefit greatly from you reading to them. Reading things such as articles in encyclopedias, newspaper, recipes, instruction texts, etc will broaden their understanding of reading across different contexts too.
Flute: Lessons are on a Thursday. Children must practice at least once a week any notes or pieces of music that we are learning.

Dates for your Diary:

Tuesday 11th September - meet the teacher - 6pm - Year 3 classroom

Friday 15th September - Celebration Assembly (All welcome)

Friday 22nd September - FOSMs welcome and AGM

Monday 25th September - Volunteer induction- 2-3pm - parents/carers wanting to volunteer for trips or reading have to attend a volunteer induction session first.

Tuesday 26th September - Volunteer induction- 5.30-6.30pm

Friday 6th October - Harvest service at St Mary's Church

Monday 9th October - Supporting your child with reading at home workshop - 1.30 - 3.00pm

Tuesday 10th October - Supporting your child with reading at home workshop - 6 - 7.30pm