



St. Mary's C.E. School

Year Three - Spring 1

January 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and trust that the children return refreshed and ready to go.

The children did brilliantly last term; we shall continue to build on their skills across the board as the year progresses. This half term will be a very busy and productive one, full of new topics and areas of study. This half term, we will continue our work on 'How Humans Work' and then look at 'Different Places, Similar Lives?'

English:

In English, we will be starting a new Power of Reading text called 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane' by Kate DiCamillo . We will also look at traditional stories (including Myths and Legends, Fables and Parables) writing instructions and poetry. In grammar, we will be looking at prepositions, proper nouns, using paragraphs, using commas, and singular and plural words. In spelling we will be looking at comparative adjectives.

Maths:

In Maths we will be looking at:

- Problem solving
- Multiplying and dividing by 10
- Using partitioning to help add 2- and 3- digit numbers
- Sorting multiples
- Multiplying and dividing by 4 and 8
- Doubling and halving
- Fractions of shapes and amounts
- Angles (acute, obtuse, right)
- Properties of 2D shapes (including perimeters)
- Angles as turns (90, 180, 270 degrees etc)
- solving additions and subtractions using place value
- Time
- Money
- Multiplication - grid method

**Times tables

Geography

In Geography, we'll be finding out:

- What different countries are like
- How the climate affects the way people live
- Where our food comes from
- What people grow and eat in different countries
- What products we make in our host country

History

In History, we'll be finding out:

- About important people in the countries we are studying
- About the way important people have changed lives
- How to make a timeline for the host country

Technology

In Technology, we'll be finding out:

- How people, food and water are transported
- How wheels, levers, pulleys, slides and floats work

RE:

Our theme for this term is 'What does it mean to be a Muslim?'. We will learn about:

- the importance of Muhammad (pbuh)
- the importance of the Qur'an and how the Qur'an is treated by Muslims
- what stories teach about Muslim beliefs
- Islamic practices (including prayer, birth rites and Islamic art;)
- the significance of the mosque;
- the similarities and differences of worship and ideas about Allah, (God) between Islam and other faiths.

ICT:

In ICT, we'll be finding out:

- How some people use ICT as part of their job as well as in their daily lives
- How to use ICT responsibly and stay safe online
- How to find reliable information from a range of sources including the internet
- How to use ICT to present things we have found out in an exciting and engaging way
- How to write algorithms to make things happen in digital games
- How to debug scripts and programs in digital games
- How to design, code, create and market our own digital games

ART:

Art will continue to be taught on a Tuesday. We will be looking at different printing techniques.

Music:

Music will be taught by our specialist Music teacher, Mrs Le Prevost, on a Tuesday. This half term we will be building on our knowledge and understanding of the pentatonic scale using Chinese music as a starting point. The focus will be on pitch and introducing ways of notating pitch and reading graphic scores then performing a pentatonic piece with tuned and untuned instruments. This will tie in with celebrating the Chinese New Year. Leading on from this, we will focus on the beat and look at how to identify how many beats there are in a bar (metre) in a piece of music and create our own ostinati using different metres. Flute will continue on a Thursday. Please make sure that children practise their instruments at home and that they bring their flute and music back into school for lessons on Thursdays.

PE:

Year 3 will be participating in PE lessons on a Tuesday, with Mr Ellis and have a second lesson on a Thursday. This half term's activity will be gymnastics. Pupils will learn to hold a range of balances, on different levels, using floor and apparatus and link these with travelling elements to create a sequence. In addition the class will practice different jumps and extend the range of rolls they can perform.

PSHE:

In PSHE, we will be looking at our dreams and goals. We will look at to overcome challenges and persevere when things are hard, working in groups, having a positive attitude, helping others achieve their goals and dreams, and achieving our own dreams and goals. This half term, we will also be looking at how to stay safe when using the internet.

FRENCH

We will continue to learn French with Madame Cox 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 should also have a book to read in our independent reading sessions. This may be one from the classroom or one from home. Please ensure that books brought from home are of a suitable level for your child. Children are expected to read at home every night for at least 15 minutes.

Regards,
The Year 3 Team

HOMEWORK

Maths and English: Maths and English/Topic homework should be completed in the Maths or English homework book.

Maths is given out on a Wednesday to be handed in on Monday.

English/Topic is given out on a Friday to be handed in on a Wednesday.

Can you please ensure that:

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: Daily for at least 15 minutes each evening. 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.

Other: Please remember to write a note in the PACT book or contact the school office if your child is being collected by someone different at the end of the day.

Dates for your diary:

- Holy Communion - *Tuesday 10th January 2017*
- KS2 Choir to Young Voices at the O2 - *Friday 20th January 2017*
- Celebration Assembly - *Friday 27th January 2017*
- Safer Internet Day - *Tuesday 7th February 2017*