



St. Mary's C.E. School
Year Three - Spring 1
January 2018

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. We will continue our work on 'How Humans Work' (there will be an Exit Point for this topic on Thursday 18th January at 9.15am) and then look at 'Bright Sparks', during which we will learn all about electricity.

English:

In English, we will be starting a new Power of Reading text 'Charlotte's Web' by E.B.White. We will also look at 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

Science:

In Science, we'll be finding out:

- How to make an electrical circuit
- Which materials allow electricity to pass through them
- What happens when we change a circuit
- How to build bigger circuits
- About magnetism and electricity
- About using electricity as heat
- How to keep safe around electricity

Technology:

In Technology, we'll be finding out:

- How to make a house with lighting and a door buzzer

History:

In History, we'll be finding out:

- About the history of the electric light bulb

International:

In International, we'll be finding out:

- How we produce electricity in our country
- Why saving electricity is good for the planet

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.

Computing:

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.

ART:

Art will continue to be taught on a Tuesday by Mrs Forsythe. We will continue to expand our range of techniques using a variety of mediums.

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.

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 gymnastics. Pupils will focus on performing a variety of rolls and jumps in different shapes. In addition the class will practice balances on different levels and inverted balances. Similar skills will be linked and developed to create individual sequences in space.

PSHE:

In PSHE, we will be looking at our dreams and goals. We will look at how 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, reinforcing what we have already learned and adding to our vocabulary.

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

HOME LEARNING

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

Home learning is given out on a Friday to be handed in on 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 an email using the PACT system, tell me or Mrs Ford in person or contact the school office if your child is being collected by someone different at the end of the day.