



St. Mary's C.E. School
Year Three - Spring 2
February 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back! I hope that you all had a wonderful half term break.

I was very pleased with the progress of the children last half term and am looking forward to another fun and busy half term. I hope that the children are also looking forward to being back and getting back into school life.

Over the next few weeks, Year 3 will finish exploring the topic of 'Scavengers and Settlers: Early man to Iron Age' with a trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum.

The workshops will help them reflect and put into practice what they have been learning in class throughout this topic.

We will then commence our new topic, 'Bright Sparks' where the children will become scientists and explore many aspects of electricity.

We invite you to share our learning on this topic on 10th April at 9.05am.

English:

In English, the children will explore the text 'Iron Man' by Ted Hughes illustrated by Lauren Carlin. This version provides opportunities to explore the ways in which illustrations can support the text. They will make predictions about characters, draw comparisons, annotate drawings, write a persuasive letter, create list poetry exploring expanded phrases and fronted adverbials and produce diary extracts in the role of a character.

In grammar, we will be looking at prepositions, using commas, and singular and plural words.

In spelling we will be looking at making plurals.

The children really enjoy slowly discovering the text as a class, for this reason please refrain from buying this text and reading it with them, so the magic and wonder of revealing each page can be captured in class and allow the children to be excited to write and discuss the book.

I want to encourage their enthusiasm to explore reading, so I recommend the following texts which are related to our class text "Iron Man":

"The Robot and The Bluebird" by David Lucas and "The Wild Robot" by Peter Brown.

Maths:

As Mathematicians we will be looking at:

- adding two 2-digit numbers mentally
- adding 2-digit to 3-digit numbers mentally using place value and rounding
- adding two 3-digit numbers using expanded written method
- add two 3-digit numbers using expanded column addition
- Telling the time to the nearest minute on analogue and digital clocks (minutes past and minutes to)
- timing events in minutes and seconds
- finding a time after a given interval
- solving word problems involving time
- solving subtractions of 3-digit - 3-digit numbers using counting up
- doubling and halving numbers up to 100 by partitioning
- solving word problems involving doubling and halving
- multiplying numbers between 10 and 25 by 1-digit numbers using the grid method
- dividing multiples of 10 by 1-digit numbers using known tables facts

**Times tables

Science

As Scientists, we'll be finding out:

- Which common appliances run on electricity
- 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

History

As Historians, we'll be finding out:

- About the history of the electric light bulb

International

As global citizens, we'll be finding out:

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

RE:

As theologians this half term, we will be concluding our work on "Who Is Jesus" then begin addressing the question "What are The Beatitudes and What Do They Mean For Christians?".

This unit teaches where The Beatitudes came from, what they are and what they mean for Christians. It asks the pupils to think about the moral decisions that they and (other)

Christians make based on The Beatitudes. Pupils are asked to respond to The Beatitudes using a variety of media.

We will then conclude by looking at Easter People, which involves the children exploring the questions; why did Judas betray Jesus? What does Peter's denial say about the challenges of Christian faith? Why were the women important at the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus? Who is the most important person in the Easter narrative and why?

Computing:

As computer technicians, we'll be finding out:

- 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 and continuing the unit "digital gamers".

ART:

In the art-room this half-term we will create observational still life studies drawings and paintings of a variety of seasonal flowers and vegetation.

Year 3 will learn to mix warm colour tones in their work.

We will draw and look at the work of artists across the centuries: Judith Leyster (17th); Jan van Huysum (18th); Henri Fantin-Latour (19th); Andy Warhol (20th); Gillian Ayres (21st).

As the first half of the summer term is short we will start planning and preparing our canvases for the FOSMS Summer Art Exhibition.

Music:

This half term the musical focus will be on pitch, developing a deeper understanding of what it is, using 'In the Past' as our topic. We will be going back in time to see how pitch used to be notated and we will be using these simple notations as a starting point to write down our own melodies and different rhythm patterns.

PE:

Year 3 shall be embarking on a 10-week swimming programme on a Wednesday, starting this half term.

Their second PE lesson shall continue with handball with Mr. Naughton on a Thursday where they shall continue to develop the techniques and skills already learned to channel them into 'game' play, working at a level that suits their ability and confidence.

Once this is completed the children shall start Tennis, developing hand to eye coordination, timing and technique covering basic shots.

On alternate Tuesday mornings Y3 shall take part in Yoga with Ms. McCrone.

These sessions are designed to draw inner focus, confidence, both physical and mental strength as well as teaching the children tools to cope with childhood anxiety (which is on the rise) in their busy lives. The sessions shall encourage individual and paired work to build friendships, fun and respect for one another.

Please note that the Children will need to come into school dressed in their PE kits with their uniforms in their bag every **Thursday**.

Swimming

Swimming will begin on Wednesday 6th March, in place of Tuesday's PE lessons; we will be swimming on Wednesdays.

Please ensure that your child has their swimming kit (including a swimming cap) on this day.

PSHE:

We will be focusing on the theme of "Healthy Me". During this topic we will learn to identify things, people and places that we need to keep safe from, and to describe some strategies for keeping ourselves safe; including whom to go to for help.

FRENCH

We will continue to have French lessons with Madame Goalen on a Wednesday. We shall revise the vocabulary that we have already learned and begin to learn the parts of the body, how to describe ourselves, party games and Easter vocabulary and Easter traditions in France.

Regards,

Mrs McCarthy and Mrs Khatib

HOME LEARNING

Maths and English/Topic: Maths and English home learning should be completed in the Maths (Green) or English (Orange) 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 send an email via the PACT system before 9am or contact the school office if your child is being collected by someone different at the end of the day. Messages after 9am are not guaranteed to be read but will be addressed the following morning.

NB: Mornings are extremely busy times to hold conversations; our aim is to get the children quickly and safely up to class to begin their learning.

The Pact system is checked daily so is the best way to communicate with us.