



St. Mary's C.E. School
Year Three -Summer 1
April 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break. I am pleased to see all the children returning to school refreshed and ready to learn. We have a very busy, but exciting, term ahead of us. This term we will cover a range of interesting and intriguing topics across all curriculum areas. Our topic this half term will be 'Different Places, Similar Lives', during which we will be looking at how the lives of people in other countries compare to our own lives.

For your information, Y3 Optional SATs in English and Maths will be taking place during the week beginning 14th May. There is nothing the children need to do to prepare for these tests, except to have a good night's rest and a healthy breakfast.

This half term we will be looking at:

English:

We will finish looking at Charlotte's Web and then move on to The Pebble in My Pocket, a story which follows the journey of a pebble from its formation in a volcano 480 million years ago to its current position in a little girl's collection! We will then look at the African tale Fly, Eagle, Fly. Children will focus on their writing skills; using punctuation accurately, creating more complex sentences, developing vocabulary for descriptive writing, having their own views and using paragraphs. We will work on non-fiction texts understanding how to gain information from books. This will include using an index to locate information within a book and evaluating sources. We will also look at adventure and mystery stories.

Maths:

In Maths, we will be looking at:

- mental addition and subtraction
- mental multiplication and division
- comparing fractions
- written multiplication and division (including division with remainders)

- telling the time to the nearest minute
- using bar graphs and pictographs
- comparing, estimating and measuring weights

Geography

In Geography, we'll be continuing to find 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 half term is 'Who Is Jesus?' In this unit we will be looking at the different names and character names for Jesus, particularly His claim to be "The Bread of Life", describing the symbolism represented in the painting of 'The Light of The World' by Holman Hunt, know the characteristics of a good shepherd and understand why Jesus refers to himself as a shepherd and what this means for Christians.

ICT:

Email is the focus of our learning in ICT this term and children should learn how this is important as a means of communication. We will send and receive emails and learn how to attach images to mail.

Art:

As usual the programme in Art Room for the first half of the summer term has been set by the art team from FOSMS and this year we will be creating work on the exciting theme of 'Cool Britannia!' A number of children have researched the theme over the Easter break; others are starting this week- simple ideas often work best. The FOSMS team are organising a fantastic exhibition of the work plus

workshops and refreshments on 19 May so please put the date in your diary. The theme for Year 3 is 'British Landmarks'.

Music:

In Year 3 music, we will be exploring songs and poems about places to link in with their class topic of Land, sea and sky. Through creating accompaniments and sound pictures to reflect sounds in their local environment, we will be learning about melodic ostinatos, ternary and rondo forms and exploring timbre. This will lead to class performances using two-part vocal harmony and combining chants and sound pictures.

PE:

Year 3 will be participating in PE lessons on a Tuesday. This half term's activity will be tennis. Pupils will focus on moving to receive by playing throw-catch tennis and striking a moving ball with the forehand, backhand and volley. In addition the class will practice serving, maintaining a rally and shot placement. Skills will be applied through a range of co-operative and competitive games.

We will continue swimming on a Wednesday until Wednesday 23rd May, which will be our last swimming session. Please ensure that your child has the correct kit.

PSHE:

In PSHE we will be looking at relationships and understand how we can help to nurture these. We will look at what makes a good relationship by thinking about how to make friends and how to solve friendship problems when they occur. We will also look at how to help others feel part of a group, how we show respect for others and how we can help ourselves and others when we are hurt or upset,

French:

This half term we will continue learning with Madame Cox on a Monday. We will be learning how to say the names of different animals, count to 20, say and recognise months of the year as well as talk about various important dates and festivals in the French calendar

Kindest regards,
Miss Barrett and Miss Ford

HOME LEARNING

Maths and English/Topic: Maths and English Home Learning should be completed in the Maths or English 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 using the PACT system if your child is being collected by someone different at the end of the day.