



St. Mary's C.E. School
Year Three -Summer 1
April 2019

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 'Land, Sea and Sky', during which we will be looking at the species of living things which inhabit the Earth's mountains, deserts, forests, caves, lakes, rivers and oceans.

For your information, Y3 Optional SATs in English and Maths will be taking place during the week beginning 13th 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:

Our power of reading text will be *Fly, Eagle, Fly*, an adaptation of an African tale, a parable about reaching your potential.

Through this story we will be looking at descriptive language, drawing and annotating, writing versions of the story from other characters perspectives, information writing and looking at the children's ambitions and dreams.

The 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.

This story links with our topic. We will also make cross curricular links to living things and their habitats by looking at chickens and eagles.

Maths:

As Mathematicians, we will be looking at:

- mental addition and subtraction
- mental multiplication and division
- comparing fractions
- written multiplication and division (including division with remainders)
- using bar graphs and pictographs
- comparing, estimating and measuring weights

Science

As scientists, we will engage in natural philosophy to find out:

- the importance of plants in the ecosystem
- how water plants are different from other plants
- how fish have adapted to living in water
- how birds are adapted to flying
- how to create a classification key to group animals
- about food chains in different world habitats

RE:

Our theme for this half term is 'What Does It Mean To Be a Muslim?' In this unit we will be looking at:

- The importance of Muhammad (pbuh.)
- The importance of the Qur'an and how it 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:

Email is the focus of our learning in computing 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:

This half-term we will be completing our A4 canvases for the art exhibition. Please join us in the school hall on Saturday 18 May to celebrate the children's artwork.

Inspired by the work of the contemporary American artist Michael Craig-Martin, Year 3 will use bright colours to paint a single piece of technology from the past 200 years.

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:

This half of term, year 3 shall spend their Tuesday morning lesson with Ms McCrone learning the key principles and skills of cricket. This shall include a variety of sending/receiving techniques, batting and understanding rules of basic cricket based games. The children shall also have the chance to perfect their Sports Day skills, reinforcing their running, throwing and jumping techniques for a wide variety of events.

We will continue swimming on a Wednesday until Wednesday 5th June, which will be our last swimming session. Please ensure that your child has the correct kit.

PE kits need to be worn on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for this half-term (no school uniform needed for either days).

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 Golene on a Wednesday.

We will be learning to:

- Understand and say some words for animals in spoken French.
- Say animal words in a song.
- Use the verb 'avoir' Using j'ai, relating to what animals they have chosen
- Understand and use numbers to 20, recognise patterns in the written and spoken word and recap numbers 0-11

Kindest regards,
Miss McCarthy and Mrs Khatib

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* for any messages you would like to communicate. **Mornings are very busy, and our priorities are to get the children in quickly and safely so they can begin their learning. PACT messages are checked daily and is the best way to communicate with us.**