

Upper KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview

Year 3 2016/2017 - Autumn 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the Summer break to a new school year. I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Year 3. For this half term I am pleased to provide you with information about what the children will be covering in the different subjects. The new curriculum will continue to be taught and if you wish to know more about it visit the DfE website, the school website or speak with me.

Catholic life of the school

On a Monday afternoon, we start the week by gathering together to reflect on the week ahead and pray together. Each Thursday at 2.45pm, we hold a Celebration Assembly, when we celebrate the achievements of children from each class with parents.

The children will be attending a variety of whole school masses, both in the Church and also class Masses in school.

The Wednesday Word is available for every child to take home every Wednesday. Please look out for this and share it with your child. Additional copies are available at the school office.

In class the children will continue to plan and lead Collective Worship Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Healthy School Initiative

As part of the healthy school initiative, we will continue to encourage the children to be active at playtimes. Children will be encouraged to drink water throughout the day; therefore it is important that the children have their bottles in everyday! It makes it easier for the children if the bottles have a sports top, as it would prevent any unnecessary spillage.

Healthy snack days will continue to be Monday to Friday and the children will be given the opportunity to eat their snacks during morning playtimes.

Information and dates to remember

Tues 20 Sept: Mad Science Assembly at 11am.

Tues 4th Oct: Year 5 and Year 1 Mass at 9.30.

Tues 6th Oct: Year 6 Classroom Mass at 11am.

Thurs 6th Oct: Year 3 Rejoice assembly at 2.45pm.

Thurs 13th Oct: Reception Mass at 2.30pm

Tues 18th Oct: Year 3 and Year 2 Mass at 9.30.

Fri 21st Oct: School closes for half term.

Homework information

- **English homework** will be given out on a Thursday and is to be handed in the following Tuesday.

- **Spellings** will be given out on a Tuesday and tested the following Monday, in addition to a focus on the children embedding their spellings into their written work and working in their Spelling Logs.

- **Maths homework** will be given out on a Tuesday and is to be handed in on Friday of the same week.

- **Reading** Each child should read for a minimum of 15 minutes per night and complete their reading records.

Concerns and messages

If you have any concerns or problems, please do not hesitate to come in and see me at the end of the school day.

Any messages in the morning must be left with a Teaching Assistant on the Junior gate and they will be passed directly to me that morning.

Year 3
General Class
Information

Big Maths

The children will continue to complete a weekly 'Big Maths' assessment and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to keep their Big Maths files in their book bags so that they can share their assessments with you and work on the types of questions that they find more challenging. The children will continue to split into smaller groups and work with a Big Maths teacher once a week.

We will also be continuing to focus on learning our times tables and be rewarding with bronze, silver and gold stickers on our tables charts.

Please encourage your child to use their Maths skills at every opportunity.

Remember we are going for green!

Reading

In line with our school policy the children will develop their reading in class throughout the week through shared reading and guided reading sessions and I shall be monitoring their reading progress carefully each week with my own records. Our class reader for this half term is 'The World's Worst Children' by David Walliams.

The reading records are for parents to record your child's reading at home. We ask all our children to read for 15 minutes each night. Although I will be keeping my own record of your child's reading progress it would be really helpful if you could make comments in your child's reading record book each time they read, to let me know how they have coped with a book at home. Home reading records are checked every day and home reading is acknowledged with positive comments and stickers.

If your child reads any other reading material as well as their reading book from school please also make a note of it in their reading record. The home reading record is also a good way to make contact with me if you wish to send me a message and cannot get into school.

This year as part of our 3 year Improvement Plan, we are particularly focusing on 'Reading'. As well as our reading activities in class, we ask that in addition to hearing your child read, you share books and read to them and explore the pleasure of reading with your child.

The school continues to run an early doors reading club (£2) 8am - 8:45am each morning. Open to all!

Grammar Hammer

The children will continue to complete a weekly 'Grammar Hammer' assessment and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to keep their SPAG folders (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) in their book bags so that they can share their assessments with you and work on the types of questions that they find more challenging. The children will be focusing on one grammar aspect each week.

Please encourage your child to use their folders to practise different areas of grammar at every opportunity.

RE - Autumn term topics**Homes**

To know and understand the joys and sorrows of being a family at home and God's vision for ever family.

Promises

To know and understand that belonging in a group involves promises and rules and the meaning of the promises made at Baptism.

Science- Plants

- Identifying basic parts of a plant.
- Learning how plants make their own food (photosynthesis).
- Finding out about the function of the root and stem (by growing cress and dyeing celery).
- Learning how plants reproduce using wind and insect pollination.
- Investigating which seeds disperse the furthest.

English**We will be studying a range of books by Allan Alhberg.****Reading**

- Positive attitudes to reading and understanding of what they read.
 - Listening to and reading a wide range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry.
- Using a dictionary/thesaurus/ prompt sheets to check/ change the words that they have read.

Writing

- Plan writing through discussing ideas, noting key vocabulary to use.
- Rehearsal of sentences orally building on a varied vocabulary then sequencing stories identifying different parts.
- Write narrative based on familiar settings.
- Writing poems using various formats.
- Using planning and upstage prompts to improve writing techniques.

Grammar and punctuation

- To understand nouns, verbs, adjectives and prepositions.
- To use a range of conjunctions in sentences.
- To understand alphabetical order.
- To use direct speech in writing.

Spelling

Recap of high frequency words from KS1.

To learn spelling lists in SPAG file and use dictionaries to find meanings and create new lists of words with similar spelling patterns.

Handwriting

Join words and understand which letters are best left un-joined.

Maths**Number - Number and Place Value**

- Read and write numbers up to 1000 in numerals and in words.
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a three-digit number (hundreds, tens, ones).
- Solve number problems and practical problems involving these ideas. (NRICH- a maths website)

Addition and Subtraction

- Add and subtract numbers with up to three digits, using formal written methods of columnar addition and subtraction.
- Estimate the answer to a calculation and use inverse operations to check answers.
- Solve problems, including missing number problems, using number facts, place value, and more complex addition and subtraction.

Multiplication and division

- Count from 0 in multiples of 4, 8, 50 and 100 and find 10 or 100 more or less than a given number.

Shape

- Draw 2-D shapes.
- Measure the perimeter of simple 2D shapes.

Data

- Interpret and present data using bar charts, pictograms and tables.
- Solve one-step and two-step questions [for example, 'How many more?' and 'How many fewer?'] using information presented in scaled bar charts and pictograms and tables.

PE

Indoor PE

Children will be working on the key aspects of PE such as Agility, Balance, Co-ordination, and Movement. They will incorporate these focuses into a variety of activities and games.

Outdoor PE - every Wednesday

Tennis at Padgate Tennis Club

The children will develop their ball skills co-ordination and fitness to play small team games, building up to class games of tennis.

Please ensure PE kits are in school everyday and are clearly labelled.

PSHCE- Families

Using 'Espresso' the children will learn about different families.

- 'Me' - each child discusses their interests, friends, school and home life.
- 'My family' - the child discusses what is 'special' about their family.
- 'Feelings' - the child discusses the advantages and disadvantages of their family set-up and some of the memories they have about family members.

History- The Stone Age

Learn about what life may have been like thousands of years ago.

Middle Stone Age describes the life of the early hunter-gatherer and tells how Britain became an island.

New Stone Age explores the impact of farming and the appearance of the first villages.

Bronze Age and *Iron Age* focus on the impact of metalwork and the developments made.

Topic Title

The Stone Age.

Art

The children will have opportunities to:

- Produce creative work, exploring their ideas.
- Become proficient in drawing, painting and sculpture.
- Evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art and craft.

Design Technology

The children will have opportunities:

- To investigate & evaluate a range of familiar products (Stone Age brooch/shield).
- To design patterns for their product.
- To investigate different stitches for each pattern.
- To communicate their ideas through drawing and painting.
- To make their product using appropriate materials.

Computing- We are Programmers

In this unit the children will create an animated cartoon by using characters they design.

They will:

- Use the paint tool to create a character in Scratch.
- Create an animation by translating a storyboard into a series of scripted instructions.

Music

Using 'Charanga', the children will learn how music is created. They will be learning about pitch, duration, dynamics and tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations. They will also learn to accompany this music, by learning to play the recorder.

The children will listen to and appreciate range of music from around the world.