

Lower KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview

Year 3 2017/2018 - Spring 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the Christmas holidays. We sincerely hope that you all had a peaceful and relaxing Christmas and would like to wish you a happy and healthy new year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the kind gifts, cards and messages. We were once again overwhelmed by your generosity. For this half term we are pleased to provide you with information about what the children will be covering in the different subjects. We are continuing with the National Curriculum, if you wish to know more about it visit the DfE website, the school website or speak with us. Kind regards, Mrs Neiland and Mrs Crook.

Catholic life of the school

On a Monday morning, we start the week by gathering together to reflect on the week ahead and pray together. Each Thursday at 3pm, 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 Church and 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.

During this term the children will be involved in charity works, particularly during Lent. We will be taking part in fundraising activities and raising awareness of local charities through the Good Shepherd Appeal for Nugent Care and also be raising funds for 'Mission Together' which supports international charity work.

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

January:

- Thurs 4 Start of Spring Term for children
- Fri 5 Key Stage 1 trip to the Pantomime, Parr Hall
- Tues 16 SATs meeting for year 2 and year 6 parents at 3.40pm & 5pm
- Thurs 25 Reception Rejoice Assembly at 9am

February:

- Thurs 8 Movie Night 3.30-5.45pm
- Wed 14 Ash Wednesday Service
- Wed 14 Parents' evening 3-5.30pm
- Thurs 15 Parents' evening 5.30-8pm
- Fri 16 School closes for half term at 3.30pm.

Homework information

- **English homework** will be given out on a Friday 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 will be 'Kasper the prince of cats' by Michael Morpurgo.

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.

We have purchased a lot of new reading resources throughout the school, in particular the banded home readers. I will be checking weekly and guiding your child's choice of reading book and changing them as necessary.

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.

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 fortnightly '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 - Spring term topics

Journeys - The children will learn about the Christian family's journey with Jesus through the Church year.

Listening and Sharing - This topic will allow the children to explore how Jesus gives himself to us in a special way. They will learn about listening to the Word of God and sharing in Holy Communion.

Please read the RE Newsletter on the school website for more information.

Science- Light

- Recognise that we need light to see things and that dark is the absence of light.
- Notice that light is reflected from surfaces and know the sun is dangerous to our eyes.
- Recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by a solid object.

English**Reading**

- Continue to listen to and discuss a range of fiction, non-fiction and reference books.
- Use dictionaries to check the meaning of words.
- Prepare poems to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action.
- Discuss words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination.
- Recognise some different forms of poetry.
- Understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by checking that the text makes sense to them, explaining the meaning of words in context, asking questions to improve their understanding of a text identifying main ideas from one paragraph. retrieve and record information from non-fiction. participate in discussion about both books.

Writing

- Compose and rehearse sentences orally, building a rich vocabulary and a range of sentence structures using Chinese myths and legends.
- Use organisational devices e.g. headings, sub headings.
- Assess effectiveness of their own and the writing of others, and suggest improvements.

Grammar and Punctuation

- Vary sentence structure by expressing time and cause using conjunctions.
- Use of past and present tense.
- Revision of apostrophes to mark contracted forms in spelling.
- Headings and sub headings to aid presentation.
- Continue to improve verb to aid interest.
- Experiment with adjectives to aid impact.
- Use paragraphs as a way to group related material.

Spelling

- Spelling 'Read, Write inc' - Units 3 - 5 -
- Prefixes
- Word endings sounding like shun spelt like -sion, sher spelt -sure and cher spelt -ture.

Handwriting

- Continue to develop joined handwriting, knowing when to join words,

Mathematics**Number - Number and Place Value**

- Read write and compare numbers up to 1000.
- Count on from 0 in multiples of 4, 8, 50 and 100.
- Find 10 and 100 more/less than a given number.
- Solve number problems involving multiples and 10 and 100 more/less.

Addition and Subtraction

- Add and subtract numbers mentally - 3-digit number and tens/hundreds.
- Add and subtract numbers with up to 3 digits, using number lines leading to written methods of columnar addition and subtraction.
- Solve addition and subtraction problems, including missing number problems.

Multiplication and division

- Recall multiplication and division facts for 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 times tables.
- Recall multiplication facts for 8 times table.
- Use formal methods of multiplication.

Fractions

- Recognise, find and write fractions of a discrete set of objects.
- Recognise and show, using diagrams, equivalent fractions with small denominators.
- Add and subtract fractions with the same denominators.

Measurement

- Measure, compare, add and subtract volume/capacity (l, ml).
- Add and subtract amounts of money to give change.
- Know the number of seconds in a minute and the number of days in each month, year and leap year.

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

The children will develop their ball skills co-ordination and fitness to play small team tag rugby games with Warrington Wolves.

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

PSHCE- Going for Goals

The children will:

- Recognise their own worth as individuals.
- Learn to be a good critical friend.
- Learn how to be a better learner.
- Recognise and celebrate their own achievements.

History – The Shang Dynasty.

The children will learn to:

- Locate China on a world map and label its principal cities, regions and rivers.
- Identify changes within and across historical periods in China.
- Identify some social, cultural, religious and ethnic diversities of China.
- Give some causes and consequences of the main events, situations and changes in the 'Shang Dynasty'.
- Learn about Chinese New Year.

Topic Title

Early Civilisations

Art

The children will have opportunities to study art work from the 'Shang Dynasty' and;

- Produce creative work, exploring their ideas.
- Become proficient in drawing and painting.
- 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.
- 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-

The children will make a short, narrated video of their dragon puppets as a shadow puppet show and use this to help improve their performance. They will:

- Gain skills shooting a video.
- Edit clips and narration.
- Understand the qualities of effective videoing.

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 using reggae music. (Three Little Birds by Bob Marley and the Wailers). They will also learn to accompany this music.

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