St. Mary's RC Primary School Year 3

Half termly Overview - Autumn One

Religion

In RE, we are learning about the story of Creation from the Book of Genesis and what it teaches us about God's love for the world. The children will reflect on how we are all part of God's creation and how we share the responsibility of looking after our common home. We will also explore the idea of covenant – God's special promise to His people – and think about how we can respond by living with care, respect, and gratitude for the world around us.



Maths

In maths, we will be looking at place value with numbers up to 1,000. They will compare, order and round numbers.

They will also learn both informal and formal methods of addition and subtraction including exchanging. In addition, children will be taught how to use inverse operations, where alternative calculations may be used to check answers (e.g. 243 + 154 = 397 / 397 - 154 = 243)

Throughout the Autumn term and beyond, there will be a focus on developing the children's explanation of calculations and their understanding of why they are using certain methods.

Reading (and Phonics)

In reading, the children will read various texts during guided reading sessions. They will read both a variety of fiction texts and non-fiction texts which link to topics studied in foundation subjects, such as the Stone Age, rocks and fossils and climate change. Within these sessions, they will work on a range of reading skills, such as inference, retrieval and summarising.

We will also read a variety of texts during our reading for pleasure sessions, to encourage children to develop a love of reading.

Writing

In writing, we are studying the text 'The Comet' by Joe Todd-Stanton.

Linked to the text, the children will be creating a diary entry from the perspective of Figg the cat, a main character in the story. They will also be writing a narrative linked to the book, in which the main character, Nyla, goes on a journey when she discovers a comet has landed near her home.

The grammar focus will be using fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases.

Science

In science, our unit of work is 'Scientific Investigation'. Each week, the children will take part in a different experiment, including making solar ovens, testing different variables when baking a cake and observing the effect of mild acids and alkalis on different materials.



History

In History, we will be answering the question – 'Would you prefer to have lived in the Stone Age, Bronze Age or Iron Age?' Within this unit, we will be finding out in detail about how lives changed during these three periods, through the development of farming, trade, housing and currency. We will also be looking at the importance of archaeological discoveries in helping to understand prehistory.

Art

In Art, our first topic focuses on developing drawing skills. The children will learn how to use basic shapes and lines to form a sketch, before adding details such as shading to them to make them more realistic by showing areas of light and dark tone.

Physical Education

In P.E., the children will be playing invasion games, with the focus being on learning dodging and passing skills in Tag Rugby.

They will also be learning about how to perform point and patch balances and spins during their gymnastics lessons.

Music

In music, will focus on singing. They will learn to understand a time signature, explain vocal range and sing acapella. They will also learn to sing in a 2-part round.

French

In French, the children will be learning how to successfully greet each other, describe how they are feeling and introduce themselves to others.

They will also learn to begin to recognise how some sounds ('on', 'ou', 'et' and 'oi') are represented in written form.



PSHE

In Happy Minds, the children will learn about how specific areas of their brain work to help us focus, remember and develop good habits.

We will also be discussing family and friendships and about belonging to a community.



Homework

Homework will be given out every Friday to be returned on Wednesdays. Homework will alternate between English and Maths each week. The children will also receive spellings each Friday to be tested the following week.

Other important information

It is important in Year 3 to read regularly with your child, to help them develop both their reading fluency and their comprehension skills. We encourage children to bring in their weekly reading book into school each day, so that they are also able to read with an adult during the school day.

As a school and particularly throughout Key Stage Two, we encourage all children to practice their times tables. Children's knowledge and fluency of times tables can help to support their learning of Maths more generally, as it links to almost all the topics covered throughout the year. Use of the app, Times Table Rockstars (TTRS) is a great way to encourage children to do this.