

Year 3 – Autumn Curriculum letter

Welcome back to St. Mary’s for the Autumn Term. I hope you had an enjoyable and restful Summer break. This letter will inform you of the exciting things that your child will be learning about, over the next two half terms.

General reminders

Children must bring the following equipment to school, everyday: A pencil case with HB pencils, coloured pencils, sharpener, ruler, rubber and glue stick, their daily reading book, home-school diary and a bottle of water. We recommend that children also bring in whiteboard pens, but this is not required.

Please ensure that your child reads every day and that this is noted in your child’s home-school diary. Children’s reading should be noted in the home-school diary at least 4 times a week. If there are any important notes, especially regarding a change in pick-up arrangements, please ensure that these notes are clearly written in the home-school diary.

Please ensure your child has the correct uniform every day (winter uniform is shirt and tie with jumper) and that all of your child’s belongings are clearly name-labelled.

Our PE days (for the first half term, at least) are Monday and Wednesday. However, children may need their PE kit at any time throughout the week, so please ensure that your child has a PE kit in school at all times.

Spellings and times-tables are collected and given out on Fridays. Children should practice these every day, for no more than 10 minutes.

Curriculum

Our topics over the term are ‘Prehistoric Britain’ and ‘Rocks!’. We will be reading ‘Stone Age Boy’ by Satoshi Kitamura and ‘The Pebble in My Pocket: A History of Our Earth’ by Meredith Hooper.

RE

Our topics for RE this term are ‘The Christian Family’ and ‘Mary, Mother of God’.

The Christian Family						
Learning focuses						
Know that we all belong to a family	Know what it means to belong to the family of the Church	Know that we join the Church when we receive the Sacrament of Baptism	Understand what happens when we receive the Sacrament of Baptism	Know about some of the signs and symbols used in the Sacrament of Baptism	Know about the promises made at Baptism by parents and godparents	Think about the importance of keeping promises

Mary, Mother of God						
Learning focuses						
Know that God chose Mary to be the mother of His Son.	Know that Mary went to visit her cousin Elizabeth.	Know about the Mystery of the Incarnation.	Understand that Advent is a time to prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus.	Know about the birth of Jesus.	Reflect on what the birth of Jesus means for us.	Know that Wise Men came to worship Jesus.

Maths

Our areas for study for this term are Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division. Children will develop their fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills in these areas.

<u>Place value</u>	<u>Addition and subtraction</u>	<u>Multiplication and division</u>
Learning focuses	Learning focuses	Learning focuses
Count from 0 in multiples of 4, 8, 50 and 100; find 10 or 100 more or less than a given Number. Recognise the place value of each digit in a three-digit number (hundreds, tens, ones). Compare and order numbers up to 1000. Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations. Read and write numbers up to 1000 in numerals and in words.	Add and subtract numbers mentally, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a three-digit number and ones. - a three-digit number and tens. - a three-digit number and hundreds. 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	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables. Write and calculate mathematical statements for multiplication and division using the multiplication tables that they know, including for two-digit numbers times one-digit numbers, using mental and progressing to formal written methods.

Children will continue to be tested on their multiplication tables weekly. Regular practise is important and has a positive impact on Maths attainment.

English

Children will continue to develop their reading and writing skills through study of our class texts. Children will develop a greater understanding and mastery of spelling, grammar and punctuation.

Children will be given 'free-reading' time within class, and will further develop their reading skills in daily Guided Reading lessons, but we still recommend children read for at least 20 minutes every day with an adult.

Reading	Writing	SPAG
Learning focuses	Learning focuses	Learning focuses
<p>Draw inferences from reading.</p> <p>Predict from details stated and implied.</p> <p>Explain and discuss understanding of reading, maintaining focus on the topic.</p> <p>Identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning.</p> <p>Ask questions to improve understanding of a text.</p> <p>Identify main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarise these.</p>	<p>Plan, write, edit and improve.</p> <p>Compose and rehearse sentences orally.</p> <p>Use the main features of a given text-type.</p> <p>Use conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause.</p> <p>Use a range of descriptive phrases including some collective nouns.</p> <p>Use organisational devices such as headings and sub headings.</p> <p>Write sentences that include direct speech.</p>	<p>Using 'a' or 'an' correctly.</p> <p>Use prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them.</p> <p>Spell homophones accurately.</p> <p>Identify and use conjunctions.</p> <p>Identify and use adverbs.</p> <p>Identify and use subordinate clauses.</p> <p>Identify and use headings and sub headings accurately.</p> <p>Punctuate direct speech accurately.</p>

Science

Our topics for this term are 'Rocks' and we will briefly touch on 'Evolution and Inheritance'. Are all rocks the same..?

Children will continue to develop their 'Working Scientifically' skills by planning, designing, undertaking and evaluating their own investigations.

<u>Rocks</u>					
Learning focuses					
Compare different kinds of rocks based on their appearance in the context of understanding the difference between natural and human-made rocks.	Group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their simple physical properties in the context of natural rocks.	Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within sedimentary rock.	Identifying changes related to simple scientific ideas in the context of theories about fossils.	Recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter by explaining how soil is formed.	Making systematic and careful observations in the context of investigating the permeability of different soils.

<u>Evolution and inheritance</u>	
Learning focuses	
Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.	Understand fossils in relation to the timeline.

History

Our topic for this term is 'Prehistoric Britain'. Children will learn about The Stone Age to The Iron Age. There will be a school trip to Ipswich Museum.

What was life during the Stone Age? How do we know..?

Prehistoric Britain				
Learning focuses				
Develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history, establishing clear narratives.	Understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources.	Note connections, contrasts and trends over time and develop the appropriate use of historical terms.	Develop a chronologically secure knowledge of events in the Stone Age.	Address historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity and difference, and significance.

Geography

Our topic for this term is 'The changing United Kingdom'. Children will learn about the country in which we live and how it has changed and is changing still. Is the United Kingdom all exactly the same..?

The changing United Kingdom					
Learning focuses					
I am identifying where people live in the UK.	I am identifying the rivers of the UK.	I am identifying the counties of the UK.	I am naming and locating areas of high ground in the UK.	I am identifying ways that London has changed over time.	I am identifying ways that the United Kingdom has changed over time.

Design and Technology

Our focuses for this term are 'Stone Age life' and 'Fossils'. Children will learn about the ways Stone Age people lived, creating model houses and meals. Children will also learn about fossils and how to design their own using clay.

Stone age life		
Learning focuses		
What did Stone Age homes look like? How could we replicate this with recycled (or readily available) materials?	Making Stone Age houses using the recycled or readily available resources.	What did Stone Age people eat? Can we create our own Stone Age café menu? Cook it, too?

Fossils			
Learning focuses			
Looking at examples and designing a 'fossil' to make from clay.	Creating a prototype for our designed fossil using blue tac.	Creating our designed fossil using clay and evaluating our performance on-the-go.	Evaluating our created product and deciding on the next steps.

Art

Our topic for this term is 'Stone Age Cave Art'. Children will look at the work of Stone Age artists, identify the techniques they have used and attempt to replicate this in their own artwork.

<u>Stone Age Cave Art</u> Learning focuses		
Look at the art from Stone Age artists. Identify techniques. Use paints to create own, simple 'cave art'.	Using techniques identified in Stone Age art, use sketching to accurately detail animals.	Using techniques identified in Stone Age art, use sketching and shading to accurately detail animals and show shadow.

Computing

In this half term we will be developing our coding/programming skills. Children will learn how to create algorithms and debug their code when errors occur.

<u>Programming</u> Learning focuses				
What does it mean to be a 'Digital Citizen'?	Creating algorithms – focus on sequencing our code correctly.	What is binary and how is it used?	Creating algorithms – focus on using loops to make our code as efficient as possible.	Creating algorithms – focus on using variables to trigger events.

PE

Our focus for this term is on honing our basketball and tag-rugby skills. PE will be taught by Mr Cook, Mr Hurd and Mrs Dyer.

French & Music

French and Music will be taught by Mrs Dyer on Wednesday afternoons.

I look forward to working closely with you over the term. Should there be any questions or problems, do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me.

With very best wishes,

Mr Cook