



St Mary & All Saints CE Primary School

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12th January 2024

Dear Parent,

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all. It is good to see that all the children have returned to school full of enthusiasm, ready for a hard-working and exciting term ahead. This letter includes information about the curriculum areas that the children in Year 3 will be covering this term and information that you will require.

We have many exciting topics in Year 3 and in the first part of the term there will be an overarching theme of 'We Will Rock You'. This is where we will explore 'The Stone Age' in our History lessons and 'Rocks' in Science. After half term we move onto 'What does our world provide?' with a focus on 'Plants' and comparing different countries in the world.

Our timetable this term will have an English and Mathematics focus during the morning, as in previous years, with foundation subjects taking place during our afternoon lessons. In addition, throughout the year your child will take part in curriculum days that enhance their learning experience. This term Year 3 will be going on a trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor where the children will learn about the Hindu faith.

In English we will begin by looking at non-chronological reports. We will use our learning about 'The Stone Age' and 'Rocks' to invent our own non-chronological reports. We will then move onto explore some poetry in our English lessons. After this we will be learning how to develop and write our own traditional tales using 'The Little Blue Slipper' as our text.

In Mathematics we will be working through the National Curriculum objectives for Year 3, beginning with a focus on multiplication and division, then moving onto length and perimeter. After the half term we will also be covering fractions, mass and capacity. The objectives can be found on the school website.

Other topics we will be studying are:

Science	Rocks / Plants
History	The Stone Age
Geography	Change over Time – Rome and Bath
Computing	Data Handling / Computer Science and Programming
Art	Stone Age Sculpture
DT	Cooking
PE	Games – handball and netball; Gymnastics – symmetry and asymmetry; Communication and tactics
RE	Is a Hindu child free to choose their beliefs? / Does Easter make sense without Passover?
Music	Recorders
French	Animals / Action Verbs
PSHE	Dreams and Goals / Healthy Me

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Homework

This term, homework will be set and submitted on Seesaw. In Year 3 the children will receive the following homework:

English homework will be set on a Monday and is expected to be returned by Wednesday;

Mathematics homework will be set on a Wednesday and is due in on the Friday.

When required, Foundation Subject homework will be due in one week from being handed out and may be given out once a half term.

Spellings will also be set on Seesaw and tested in class. These will be provided at the start of the half term and children will be tested every Thursday.

We have developed our spelling lists to correspond with the spelling rules the children are being taught in their English lessons. These spellings are split into 3 groups; Must, Should and Could. All children are expected to learn the 'Must' spellings; they will be directed by the class teacher to learn the 'Should' or 'Could' spellings if they are ready, although all children can choose to challenge themselves by learning these should they wish. Any children who find spelling particularly difficult will be given words linked to their phonic phases.

Children will continue working on their Numeracy Passport objectives, which will include weekly times tables tests. They will be expected to practise their passport objectives and times tables regularly at home. The children should use their login for Times Table Rockstars to support their fluency and accuracy in a fun way.

This year, we continue to focus on reading (especially reading for enjoyment) and are looking forward to finding out about what exciting books the children enjoy. Please make sure that the children have a book they are reading at home and can bring to school each day. Continue to listen to your child read daily, as not only will this aid their learning considerably, it will also increase their enjoyment of reading. Discuss the books that they are reading and encourage your child to choose more challenging literature in order to continue their development. We are using paper-based reading diaries to record daily reading. It is vital that these are in school every day.

Our carefully selected suggested reads for Year 3 are as follows:

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| 1. The Abominables by Eve Ibbotson | 7. Voices in the Park by Anthony Browne |
| 2. Evie and the Animals by Matt Haig | 8. Bill's New Frock by Anne Fine |
| 3. Toto by Michael Morpurgo | 9. The Queen's Nose by Dick King-Smith |
| 4. Going Solo by Roald Dahl | 10. Falcon's Malteser by Anthony Horowitz |
| 5. Lucy Willow by Sally Gardner | 11. The Wonder by Faye Hansen |
| 6. The Sheep-Pig by Dick King-Smith | 12. Ottoline and the Yellow Cat by Chris Riddell |

PE and Games

The children will need a full, named PE kit (T-Shirt, shorts, socks, plimsolls/trainers). Both classes will have Games and PE on Wednesday afternoons. Children will be expected to bring in and leave their kits in school for the entire half term. As a reminder, they will be required to wear trainers for outdoor PE.

Personal Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

This term as part of our PSHE curriculum, your child will be taught about goal setting and how to set and achieve realistic goals. They will also be talking about their dreams and ambitions, and how to overcome challenges. After the half term break, the focus will switch to being healthy. Pupils will learn about the importance of a healthy diet, keeping clean, regular exercise and keeping themselves safe.

Children will be introduced to, and be asked to reflect on, the following key values through our weekly assembly programme: Courage, Love, Creation, Resilience, Determination, Hope, Friendship and Curiosity. In addition, children will learn about the importance of Easter in the Christian calendar and some of the key Easter traditions.

As always, we will be encouraging the children to think about others and this term, they will be taking part in Red Nose Day to raise money for Comic Relief.

One of the highlights in our Spring Term calendar is our International Week. During this week children across the school have the opportunity to learn about different cultures, countries and traditions. They learn about the importance of respecting and valuing others and that they are part of a bigger world. We usually have a different focus each year for this week and this year our focus will be artists from across the world learning about a given country and its traditional foods.

Pupils in Years 3 and 4 will have the opportunity to develop their cycle skills and specifically learn how to keep safe when riding a bicycle via our very popular Bikeability Scheme. Children will aim to complete their Level 1 Award before having the opportunity to follow this up with their Level 2 award when they are in Years 5 and 6.

The children will be visiting Bhaktivedanta Manor on Tuesday 30th January to enhance their learning of other religions. It will also support the children's understanding of respect, enrich their social and cultural awareness, foster inclusive learning and contribute to the development of British values.

Finally, across the school, pupils will continue to perform key roles to improve their leadership and / or teamwork skills and also to develop a sense of responsibility. These responsibilities increase as children progress through the different year groups. In Year 3 pupils take on the following whole school roles:

- School council – as voted for by their peers
- Worship Ambassadors

Please keep an eye out on our Social Media pages, or in the half-termly newsletter for details of the above events and also information about additional opportunities that the children at SMAS experience as part of our PSED Curriculum and school vision.

If you ever wish to discuss anything about your child, please make an appointment through the office.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Fraser and Miss Page
Y3 Class Teachers