YEAR 3 SPRING 1 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER 2018

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"Happy together in God's family, we love, grow and learn."

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to school! We would like to thank you for all of your kind Christmas gifts, cards and good wishes. We hope you all had a relaxing and peaceful Christmas.

The children in Year 3 had a great first term and settled into KS2 life fantastically!

This term, the children will continue to be supported in their learning by Mrs Partington. Mrs Wilson will also be continuing to teach the children Spanish and Music on a Tuesday morning, which they are all enjoying.

This half term will also see the children beginning their preparation for their next Sacrament, their First Reconciliation. There will be a meeting for parents to discuss this Sacrament in the coming weeks.

We look forward to another busy, hardworking half term and especially our Theatre trip next week.

Mrs Harrison & Mrs Hanley—Year 3 Class Teachers

Homework

Reading: Year 3 children are expected to read for 20 minutes per night. Books are changed by Mrs Partington on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and will be sent home on these days. Children should ensure they aim to change their book at least once a week. School reading books can also be complimented with own choice reading books, magazines, newspapers and online reading books on Bug Club – look out for some new allocations on Bug Club.

Spellings: Children will be given a set of spellings (up to 8 words) each Friday to be brought home and practised. We will be using the spellings in many different ways throughout the week to aid learning. The children will be tested the following Friday.

Written Homework: This will be given out on a Friday to be returned on Monday. This task should take about 20 minutes and is usually completed in a homework book. There will be a balance of English and maths and occasionally topic work throughout the year.

Important Days

Monday:

Hand in homework.

Reading books changed.

PE kit required.

Wednesday:

Reading books changed.

PE kit required.

Thursday:

Reading books changed.

Musical instruments required.

Friday:

Spelling test

Homework given.

Important Dates

16.1.18 – Year 3/4 trip to see 'The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe' at WYP.

17.1.18 – Northern Arts begin working with Year 3.

25.1.18 – Year 3 Class assembly 9.15am.

25.1.18 – Parents Meeting regarding Reconciliation 4.30pm TBC.

9.2.18 - Year 3 Class Mass 9.30am. Children's Mental Health Day. 9 am – Internet safety parent workshop.

9.2.18 - School closes.

21.2.18 – Short performance from Year 3 and their work with Northern Arts.

The Year 3 Curriculum

Half-Term 3

English

This half term, the children will study The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe. The unit will explore lots of descriptive, creative writing and will be enhanced with a theatre trip to capture the children's imaginations. Northern Arts will also be working with the children over a six week period, culminating in a short performance including drama and dance.

We will also incorporate our own drama work in the unit and will support our SPaG work through the story.

PE

Year 3 will have two sessions of P.E. a week. The first will be gymnastics working on our dynamic balance and agility whilst incorporating a fun and competitive element. The second will be dance based delivered by Northern Arts.

Geography

This half term, we will study Volcanoes, Earthquakes & Tsunamis. This unit will teach the children about the destructive powers of nature, from volcanoes and earthquakes to tsunamis. Through discussion and practical tasks, children will learn about how and why these natural phenomena occur, and the ways in which they affect people and the environment.

RE

Our topic this half term is entitled, Reconciliation. This topic is designed to develop the children's knowledge and understanding of Jesus's teaching on forgiveness and how he helped people change for the better. The children will reflect on the process of reconciliation and know that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a celebration of God's love and forgiveness.

Computing

Our topic for computing this half term will typing. This unit of work uses 2Type within Purple Mash and is designed to help the children learn the basics of quick and efficient typing. The unit will use a variety of activities to introduce the children to a touch typing technique.

Music

Our unit of work for Music is called Three Little Birds. All the learning is focused around one song: Three Little Birds. Games, elements of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc.), singing and playing instruments are all linked. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other reggae songs.

Mathematics

In Maths this half term, we will develop our written methods of multiplication and division and become secure in a formal written method. We will also continue to work on our problem solving and reasoning skills, using all 4 operations.

Science

This half term we will study plants. The children will learn the names of different parts of plants, and the jobs they do. They will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate what plants need to grow well, and will present their findings to the class. They will also predict what will happen in an exciting investigation into the transportation of water within plants. Finally, we will explore the different stages of the life cycle of a flowering plant.

Art

This term the children will study a variety of Seurat's paintings, particularly 'A Sunday on the Grand Jatte'. They will then explore some of the different methods they could use to create a Pointillist effect in their own artwork and explore Seurat's interest in colour and optical mixing. They will generate ideas for themes they could use before creating their own piece of Pointillism artwork.