



**Sacred Heart**  
**Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter**  
**Autumn Term 2021**  
**Stone Age to Iron Age**

Welcome back!

In this termly newsletter, there will be: important class information, an outline of the topics we are covering this term and details concerning school routines.

**Class Information**

- Miss Enya Sheehan is the Year 3 class teacher.
- She is supported by two teaching and learning assistants: Mrs Francesca Di Fiore and Ms Rihana James.
- Mrs Di Fiore is in class all day on Mondays, Tuesday's and Wednesday's.
- Ms James is in class on Monday morning's, Tuesday morning's and all day on Wednesday's, Thursday's and Friday's.
- On Wednesday afternoons, the children will have a Music lesson with Mrs Fogg; a French lesson with Mrs Coney and a RSE lesson with Mrs Dell'Anno.
- On Friday afternoons, the children will have a Computing lesson with Junior Jam.
- The start of the day is a busy time preparing for lessons so we ask that appointments be made for a convenient time after school. We will try to respond to emails received within 48 hrs. If urgent please notify the office. Miss Sheehan's email address is [esheehan@sacredheart.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:esheehan@sacredheart.richmond.sch.uk).

**Covid-19 Routines and Practices**

The school holds a Risk Assessment detailing all the measures currently in place in school. Rest assured every precaution is being taken to ensure that children are learning in a safe environment.

- Tables continue to be disinfected at the end of every session and children are washing/sanitising their hands at the beginning and end of every lesson.
- Children are all sat at forward-facing tables with regular movements breaks.
- Any activities are done within the KS1 bubble and the children are not mixing with other year groups.
- Assemblies are still being held remotely
- Ventilation of the classrooms is still a priority.

**School Routines and Equipment**

Children are expected to be in school between 8:45am and 9:00am and collected at 3:20pm. They are dropped off at and picked up from the vehicle gate.

Children should bring their bag to school every day with their Reading Record, reading books and spelling journal. Every child should have a water bottle (and a packed lunch if they have one). Your child will need to bring a coat in as the weather becomes cooler.

The children have PE every **Thursday and Friday** and should come to school wearing their PE kit. Their indoor PE kit consists of a Sacred Heart Maroon T-shirt, navy blue school shorts or skort, white socks and trainers. They should also have the outdoor PE kit. All PE will be outdoors for at least the first half term so the children should always wear trainers.

All children are encouraged to bring water bottles. Your child will need to bring their own snack, it should either be a piece of fruit or a fruit bar (no nuts/chocolate/crisps).

Children should not be wearing jewellery and long hair should always be tied back. Please ensure all clothing and belongings are still named.

Routines have been set regarding handwashing, sanitising and cleaning off equipment and tables etc... The children have been fantastic with these and we appreciate your support with this.

## **Home Learning**

### ***English and Maths Home Learning***

Children will receive English and Maths home learning every week. They will also get occasional Home Learning linked to RE or Learning Themes.

Home Learning information will be included in my weekly email and most resources will be sent home in Home Learning Folders.

Every child has a Google Classroom account that may be used for communicating about Home Learning. Information and resources may be posted on Google Classroom and children should log onto their accounts, if requested. With your help, children can communicate with me on Google Classroom if there are any questions.

Home Learning will be assigned on a Friday and should be handed in by the following Wednesday.

If you have any problems with accessing your child's Google Classroom account, please email me.

### ***Spellings***

Children will receive a weekly list of spellings words as well as related activities to help practise the pattern. Spellings will be given out on a Friday and should be returned by the following Wednesday.

### ***Times Tables***

Each week I will ask the children to practice a specific times table. This is to prepare them for the test that will take place each Friday morning.

### ***Reading***

Now, more than ever, it is very important to hear your child read in Year 3. They should read for at least 10 minutes each evening. If your child has read, please update and sign their Reading Record book. There should be four entries per week. We should be encouraging the children to sound out and blend any unfamiliar words and check that they fully comprehend what they are reading.

We are currently updating our reading scheme selection so that the children can have more independence and responsibility over their reading. Please bear with us as we finalise this system.

We are also in the process of re-opening our library system. Until then, the children will take a book from the Year 3 book corner home on a Friday to encourage reading for pleasure over the weekend. These books should be returned on Monday.

## **Curriculum**

*Our curriculum theme this term is the Stone age to Iron Age. Where possible, learning will be linked to the Stone Age to contextualise our learning to encourage a deeper understanding and a real love of learning.*

### **Catch-up Curriculum**

As a school, our aim is to ensure that our pupils have a broad and balanced education, while ensuring that they catch-up on the fundamental skills in English and Mathematics missed during any disruption to learning over the last two years.

English, and in particular reading, underpins our understanding of everything we are asked to learn within school. If we cannot understand the information that is being presented to us, either orally or in written form, we cannot hope to move forward with completing the tasks/learning challenges being set.

As we move through this first part of the Autumn Term, the curriculum will be heavily focused on getting the basics right. We will focus on reading and the skills for reading and comprehension, as well as, the basics for writing – Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation – these are non-negotiables for each year group and build systematically across the school. Through our GSP focus, we will look to enthuse the children with a love of language which they will be encouraged to transfer into their writing.

With Mathematics, we will continue to follow the White Rose curriculum, as this has been found to be systematic and effective in building pupils understanding. As a support to schools, White Rose have provided a recovery plan for each year group which we will be using to ensure that any gaps in learning are addressed.

### **Curriculum**

#### **English**

This term we will be using the following texts to inspire the children's learning:

- **'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura**
- **'The Pebble in my Pocket: A History of Our Earth' by Meredith Hooper and Chris Coady**

Both books link with our History topic of 'Stone Age to Iron Age' and our Science topics 'Light' and 'Rocks'.

The children will be writing for different purposes and audiences in a range of styles and genres, these include: lists, letters, diary entries, recounts, instructions and poetry.

The curriculum also includes work on spelling and grammar which will be covered through our teaching on these texts and through our daily spelling lessons.

The children will continue to build upon the literacy skills developed in Year 2. As we begin our writing this term the children will be encouraged to present their writing carefully and to use consistent punctuation.

#### **Grammar Skills**

- Nouns – noun phrases
- Adjectives, verbs, adverbs
- Four types of sentences – Statements, Exclamations, Question and Command
- Co-ordinating (fanboys) and Subordinating sentences

- Commas
- Apostrophes for contraction and possession
- Past and Present tense – regular and irregular verbs
- Progressive form of past and present tenses.
- Main and Subordinate Clauses

## **Maths**

This term we will be learning to:

- Represent numbers to 100 and then to 1,000
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a 2-digit and 3-digit number
- Find 1, 10 or 100 more or less than a given number
- Compare objects to 1,000
- Compare numbers to 1,000
- Order numbers
- Count in 50s
- Add and subtract 2-digit and 3-digit numbers (crossing 10 or 100)
- Add two 3-digit numbers
- Subtract two 3-digit numbers
- Estimate answers to calculations
- Revise the 2, 5 and 10 times tables and related division facts
- Learn the 3 times tables

## **Religious Education**

The children will be following the 'Come and See' religious scheme of work. They will be following themes based around: The Domestic Church – Family: Homes (God's dream for every family), Belonging: Baptism/Confirmation – Promises (Promises made at Baptism) and Loving – Visitors: Advent/Christmas (Waiting for the coming of Jesus)

Our lessons are a combination of discussion, written work, reflection and prayer. The children will take part in 'Collective Worship' on Thursdays which they will take it in turns to lead.

## **Science**

We will be covering two topics: 'Light' and 'Rocks'

### **Light**

In this topic, the children will:

- recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light
- notice that light is reflected from surfaces
- recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect their eyes
- recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object
- find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change

### **Rocks**

In this topic, the children will:

- compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties
- describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock
- recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter

Both topics contain experimental and investigative work that will focus on thinking about what might happen, observing and making comparisons, making measurements, recording and presenting results supported by predictions and deciding whether our investigations are fair.

### **Learning Themes: History and Geography**

We will be looking at Stone Age Britain this term. The children will find out about the way of life of people living in the Stone Age from archaeological discoveries. They will develop their understanding of the characteristic features of a society; identify the different ways the past is represented; and use sources of information to make simple observations, inferences and deductions.

### **Computing**

In computing this term, the children will be learning about word processing, familiarising themselves with the keyboard and operating the tab, space bar and return keys to position their font as needed. This will then flow into our next topic of internet research skills. Safety rules will be taught and discussed in both topics. Additionally, we will look at how computers and technology work within our lives. Our outside computer agency (Junior Jam) will be enhancing our curriculum by teaching a computing session to Year 3 on a weekly basis.

### **Art/DT**

We have a cross curricular focus of Stone Age Britain, looking at Stone Age cave paintings, tools, pots and jewellery.

### **PE**

The children will be learning to take part in OAA (Outdoor Adventurous Activities) and Dodgeball in which they learn individual skills as well as how to work as a team. PE lessons will be taught on a Monday and Wednesday.

### **Music**

Mrs. Fogg is the specialist music teacher, and she teaches the children for one lesson each week, on a Wednesday.

### **PSHE**

The children will continue learning about the rules and routines of being in school. We will be looking at New Beginnings. We will be working on building and developing relationships, showing respect for one another and ourselves, playing by the rules, valuing the things we are good at and identifying those skills we wish to improve and how to do this. In addition, we will develop our own class rules and work on rewards and consequences.

### **French**

The children will be follow a scheme of work called Salut! Ça Va? They will be encouraged to listen and engage, ask and answer questions and speak in sentences using familiar vocabulary, developing appropriate pronunciation. We will be learning through stories, songs, and poems. This term we will be learning to greet different people and ask and answer simple questions, learn the numbers to 30, the months of the year and colours. We will also be looking at aspects of French culture.

### **PSCHE**

#### *Zones*

In addition to readjusting to our school rules and expectations, the children will recap and consolidate their knowledge and understanding of the Zones of Regulation. This will include: identifying our zones; developing self-regulating strategies; using clue to determine how others are feeling and reviewing expected and unexpected behaviours.

#### *SRE*

It is now a statutory requirement to include Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) lessons as part of the PSHE curriculum. After half term, we will explore more about how we are created and loved by God. Where possible, we will relate this learning to our RE and Science lessons too.

### **Trips and Enrichment**

The Government has advised that, in the autumn term, schools can resume non-overnight domestic educational visits. This includes any trips or placements connected with a pupil or student's preparation for adulthood (for example workplace visits, travel training, etc.).

At this time, a number of the planned educational visits have been cancelled by the providers as a result of their own risk assessments. In light of this, the school has taken the decision not to commence with educational visits until after the Autumn half term break and at this time, where trips are organised, these will be in line with protective measures, such as keeping children within their consistent group, and the coronavirus (COVID-19) secure measures in place at the destination.

The school is supported in its decision making around educational visits by an Educational Visits Adviser from our Health and Safety executive. The school makes use of this adviser to evaluate trips and the individual risk assessment for these trips.

Please be assured that as a school, we will do all we can to ensure your child receives as enriched a curriculum as feasible in the current climate.

### **ADDITIONAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Parents Evenings: Week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> November

- Please note: we will be sending out a survey in relation to how these will be held.

Sacred Heart Open Events: Week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> November

Christmas Concerts and Nativities: Week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> December

**These dates are provisional and may be subject to change, postponement or cancellation. The dates will be finalised towards the end of this half term.**

The children have made a fantastic start to Year 3! They have adapted to new routines and expectations beautifully. Thank you so much for your continued support and understanding. I am really looking forward to a successful year working with your amazing children.

If you have any questions or any concerns regarding your child's well-being, please do not hesitate to contact me. As we are social distancing as much as possible at the start and end of each day, please email me [esheehan@sacredheart.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:esheehan@sacredheart.richmond.sch.uk).

Many thanks,  
Miss Enya Sheehan