



Sacred Heart
Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn Term 2020
Stone Age to Iron Age

Welcome back! It is so wonderful to have all the children back to school and see them so happy and settled. This is the termly newsletter designed to give you an outline of the topics we are covering this term and suggest ways in which you can help your child at home. We are developing a more immersive and enriching curriculum this year and the topic of our Autumn Term is Stone Age to Iron Age.

Class Information

- Mrs McCue is the class teacher.
- Mrs Di Fiore is our Teaching and Learning Assistant.
- Mrs Potter will teach the children during my planning, preparation and management time on a Thursday afternoon.
- The children will be taught by Mrs Taylor for French on a Friday.
- The children will be taught by Mrs. Fogg for Music on a Wednesday.
- If you have any concerns regarding your child's well-being, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me via the office, or email cmccue@sacredheart.richmond.sch.uk.
- The start of the day is a busy time preparing for lessons so we kindly ask that appointments be made for a convenient time after school. I will try to respond to emails received within 24 hrs. If urgent please notify the office.

Routines and Reminders

- Please do ensure the school office have all up-to-date medical information for your child and up-to-date contact details for you, as parents.
- Year 3 enter the playground via the Church side vehicle gate and stay to the left side of the barrier. They then enter the building through the junior door from 8:45am to 9:00am. They will exit the building via the junior door at 3.20pm.
- Routines have been set regarding handwashing, sanitising and cleaning of equipment and tables etc. The children have been fantastic with these and we appreciate your support with this.
- All children are encouraged to bring in a small pack of tissues and hand sanitiser.
- All children are encouraged to bring in a water bottle and a playtime healthy snack. This should be either a piece of fruit or a fruit bar (no nuts/chocolate/crisps).
- Currently, children on school dinners will be issued with a school packed lunch. The rest need to bring in a packed lunch from home.
- Items of jewellery should not be worn in school and all those with pierced ears must remove earrings for PE/Games lessons on Mondays and Wednesdays. It may be easier that earrings are not worn on these days to avoid earrings getting lost.
- Hair reaching shoulder length should always be tied back.
- Please ensure all clothing (including PE kits) is clearly marked with your child's name.
- It is now compulsory for all children to have the new school PE Kit. This can be purchased from Dolphin House or via the school website.
- The kit should consist of a Sacred Heart Maroon T-shirt, navy blue school shorts or skort, white socks and trainers.
- The children should also have a Sacred Heart Tracksuit.
- Children will come to school in their full PE Kit on their set PE days. These are a Monday and Wednesday for Year 3.
- We are currently delivering all PE lessons outdoors and our intention is to do this for as long as possible. We will inform you if and when this is likely to change to indoor PE, as plimsolls will then be required.

Reading

- Your child will need a reading book and their reading record book with them, in school, daily.
- Your child is able to write in their own reading record book to show what they have read. In addition, we would ask that you sign your child's reading record, having heard them read, at least five times a week.
- Reading with your child is important, so please take the time to hear your child read and talk to them about the books they are reading
- It is an expectation in Year 3, that children read for at least 10–15 minutes per day.
- Children who are free readers can bring in their own reading book from home.
- If your child is on the reading scheme books they can also bring in their own book from home to read during our ERIC sessions each day.
- All reading records will be checked weekly.

Parent Helpers

- As it stands, we are unfortunately unable to have parent helpers in school. I will inform you if and when this changes and how you can volunteer should you wish to do so.

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 the summer term of 2020.

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.

All other areas of the curriculum will be as delivered in previous years.

Home Learning

- We continue to encourage the children to foster their independence skills throughout Year 3 and ask them, as much as possible, to take some responsibility for their own learning and organisational skills. As part of this, children are expected to complete and hand their home learning in on time. The work set will usually be linked to what has been covered in class.
- I would be exceptionally grateful if you were able to assist with ensuring the children have a positive attitude towards their home learning. Pupils should have good time management and their home learning will be expected to be of the same high standard as their class work.
- **Maths home learning** will be set on a **Thursday to be returned the following Tuesday** and will consist of either an activity in the Mathematics Workbook, or an online activity (My Maths).
- **English Home Learning** will be set on a **Thursday to be returned the following Tuesday**. 'Comprehension' Workbooks and 'Grammar and Punctuation' Workbooks will be given out on alternate weeks.
- Children will be given their logins for My Maths and Mathletics and these will be stuck into their homework diaries.
- We also have Google Classroom set up and your child will be issued with their logins. They will be spoken through/shown how to utilise this and they will be fully informed and directed to any home learning that is set on there. Please do let me know ASAP if there are any issues with laptop/devices so we can try to support with this, as a school.
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Spellings

Children will be given short, sharp spelling lessons each day. In these, they will explore a range of spelling rules. They will be given a set of spellings to learn based on this spelling rule. The children will be given a week to learn these spellings. The children will be issued with a Spelling Journal and this will need to be in school each day.

The children will be tested on their spellings the following Friday. Sometimes, this test will be in form of dictation, so it is vital the children know the meaning of their words. The children will also be expected to punctuate this dictation correctly, in order to assist with their grammar learning.

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 Tag Rugby, OAA (Outdoor Adventurous Activities) and Fitness lessons 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.

Trips/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

Tuesday 10th November and Thursday 12th November 4:00pm – 6:30pm – Parents Evenings –

- **At this time the plan is for these to take place virtually.**

Thursday 26th November at 9.30am and 7:00pm – Sacred Heart Open Events

Monday 14th December at 7.00pm – Christmas Carol Concert

The children have a made an excellent start! Thank you for your support so far. I very much look forward to working alongside you for what is set to be a wonderful school year!

Many Thanks
Mrs Catherine McCue