



**Summer Term**

**6.6.22 – 21.7.22**

# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

## Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

**Teachers:** Miss Lynch and Mrs Donnelly

**TA:** Mrs Cullen and Ms Leonard

### **Our Mission Statement**

We would like to be recognised by the quality and depth of respect and love, which we show towards each other. Mutual respect and tolerance are central to our way of life at St. Mary's as we meet Jesus Christ in each other.

We had a very busy first half of the Summer Term, learning about the Mayan civilisation. We made some authentic chocolate and took part in a Mayan day at school.

In Maths, the children used their knowledge of multiplication and division and applied this to fractions and decimals. The children worked hard with a focus on 'The Great Kapok Tree', learning about dilemma stories and writing persuasive letters.

Congratulations to the children who made their First Holy Communion from St. Mark's. We continue to keep the children from St. Edmunds in our prayers, as they get ready to celebrate the sacrament this term.

### **Dates for your Diary:**

***Monday 6th June:*** Inset day – Children not at school

***Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June:*** Trip to Kew Gardens

***Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June:*** Photographs (Whole class)

***Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June:*** Queens Jubilee celebration

***Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June:*** Sports day

***Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June:*** Whole school Mass

***Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June:*** Summer Fair

***Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June:*** St Peter and St Paul Whole school Mass

***Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July:*** Year 3 Mass

***Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July:*** Days of Many Colours

***Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July:*** End of term Mass (School closes at 2pm)



## **Religious Education**

In our R.E. lessons, we will be focusing on **Being a Christian**. We will be reflecting on what this means to us, and the gifts we have been given by God to help us to be good Christians. We will be studying the lives of St Peter and St Paul to help us to understand what being a good Christian means.

## **Relationships Education**

Following the Ten Ten relationships education program, our focus this term will be looking at **Created to Live in Community**, which explores the individual's relationship with the wider world. Here we explore how human beings are relational by nature and are called to love others in the wider community.



## **Literacy**

**Reading:** Each week, the children will have comprehension activities and Guided Reading sessions to develop their skills. We would encourage you to continue to listen to your child read and discuss what has been read with thoughtful questioning including inference to develop their understanding. Please look at the VIPERS skills that will be teaching to support your reading at home <https://www.literacysshedplus.com/en-us/browse/reading-vipers>

The children should be selecting different genres such as fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Please read to your child so they gain the enjoyment of listening to stories too. It helps their appreciation of expression and reading to an audience.

**Spellings:** Spelling sounds/rules will be integrated into the weekly timetable and tested on a weekly basis. By the end of the term the children will need to be able to spell the expected common exception words for Year 3 so we will be focusing on these.

**Grammar:** Each week, the children will have a grammar focused lesson linking with their independent writing. We will be focussing on pre-fixes, prepositions, suffixes, homophones and word families.

**Poetry:** In our poetry lessons, we will recognise different forms of poetry [for example, free verse and narrative poetry]. We look at poems from around the world and humorous poetry.

**Writing:** We will be developing creative writing through writing and performing plays. The children will also explore a variety of fiction and non-fiction writing based around 'Rainforests'.

Children will continue to produce pieces of extended writing and we are now focussing on reviewing and editing work to improve writing skills. Reviewing and editing are key skills in the curriculum, and we are noticing a positive impact on their work.



## Mathematics

During our maths lessons, we will continue to reinforce children's understanding of the number system and the skills of written and mental calculations.

Our focus this term will be on **Shape and Mass & Capacity**.

The children will continue to further their understanding of the number system including place value using three digits. This will include the ability to round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000.

**Fractions and decimals:** To consolidate their learning, the children will continue to recognise tenths; identify equivalent fractions; add and subtract fractions with common denominators.

**Statistics:** Children will develop understanding of pictograms, scaled bar charts and other graphs.

We will continue to have mental maths tests each week – please support your children by working on their rapid recall of number. This includes their 3, 4 and 8 times table out of order.



## Science: Plants

In science, we are going to consolidate our skills of working scientifically, focusing on aspects such as fair testing and writing evaluations through investigative work.

Children will:

- identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers.
- explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant.
- investigate the way in which water is transported within plants.
- explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal.

This learning will be consolidated through our geography topic, which will be Rainforests.

## Other Curriculum Areas

**PE.** This term, we will be focusing on athletics and dance/cheerleading. Children will continue to develop their skills with Mr Verga on Thursdays.

**Geography:** Our focus will be on **Rainforests**. We will study the locations of rainforests from around the world, the different layers of vegetation, the climate, and environmental issues associated with these ecosystems.

**Art and Design:** Our artwork will be based on our topic of the rainforest and we will use a variety of materials to interpret this theme. The children will design and make their own t-shirts using a tie-dye technique.

**Computing:** The children will continue to use Purple Mash to support their learning in Computing. We will be focussing on presenting. They will become more confident creating presentations on Microsoft.

### And Finally ...

**Please ensure that all uniform is clearly labelled as the cloakrooms are limited in space and quickly fill up with un-identifiable clothing. The children must have a water bottle in school every day.**

The children need to bring their reading books, record books and blue comprehension books to school. Please encourage this as we have reminded them that this is their responsibility.

Please support the local library service and encourage your children to visit the library and make use of the wide range of texts and activities available to them.

*Some useful websites: [www.ictgames.co.uk](http://www.ictgames.co.uk) , [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk) , [www.nrichmaths.org](http://www.nrichmaths.org), [www.mathsframe.co.uk](http://www.mathsframe.co.uk) and the BBC websites are also very useful. [www.trockstars.com](http://www.trockstars.com) is a really useful resource to build up fluency and speed when using your times tables.*

We trust that you have found this information useful and as always welcome your feedback. We have had an amazing year so far so looking forward to ending the year off well!

Thank you for your support,

The Year 3 Team.