



**Summer Term**

**03-06-24 to 19-07-24**

# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

## Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

**Teachers:** Mrs Donnelly, Miss Gooderham and Miss Walton

**TA:** Ms Leonard and Miss Peto

### **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 rainforest. We enjoyed a fantastic trip to London Zoo. The children were delighted to spot and learn more about animals who live in the rainforest. Thank you again to the parents who helped on the trip.

Congratulations to the children who have made their First Holy Communion this term. We have really enjoyed looking at your photos and hearing about your day.

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

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**- Inset day

**w/c 3rd June** – Judaism Week

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July** – Swimming Trinity School – Tuesdays only

**Wednesday 19th June** – Sports Day

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June** - First Holy Communion Celebration Mass

**Monday 24th June** – Assessment week

**Friday 5th July** – Mission Together- Day of Many Colours

**Saturday 6th July** – Summer Fair

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July** – Mayan workshop

**Friday 19th July**- End of term mass

**Friday 19th July**- school closes at 2 pm.



## 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 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.literacyshedplus.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 texts including multi-media.

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.



## **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.



## **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 Time, properties of shape and statistics.

**Time:** Children will extend their understanding of the units of time to include minutes and seconds, when to use different units of time and compare lengths of time written using different units and child solve problems that draw upon many of the different aspects that they have explored throughout the topic.

**Properties of shape:** children are introduced to the term "right angle" to describe a quarter turn and learn the symbol for a right angle. Children find and identify parallel and perpendicular lines in a range of practical contexts.

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

Please support your children by working on their rapid recall of number. This includes their 3, 4 and 8 times table out of order.

## Other Curriculum Areas

**PE.** Children will continue to develop their skills with Mr Verga on Wednesdays as well as their swimming lessons on a Tuesday.

**History:** We will be looking at Mesoamerica, the land of the ancient Mayans, and exploring this fascinating civilisation. The children will be finding out where the Mayans lived, what their lives were like, and how their society was organised, as well as investigating the evidence they left behind and uncovering some Mayan mysteries.

**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 motif for a t-shirt.

**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.

### Lastly

Please ensure all uniform is **labelled clearly**, as this half term we have had a lot of children losing items of clothing and not being able to locate these items.

All children need to have a full PE kit. This includes socks and a plain jumper to wear, should it be cold. Please ensure these items are in your children's PE bags.

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

**Homework:** Homework will be handed out on **Thursday and due back in by the following Wednesday**. It is important that the children begin to take responsibility for handing in their homework on time.

Please continue to read a range of fiction and non-fiction books everyday with your child. It is important that you spend time discussing and questioning the text to improve your child's understanding.

Please ensure that you are revising multiplication and division facts for 2, 5, 10, 3, 4, and 8. By the end of Year 3, your child should be fluent with these.

Some useful websites: [www.ictgames.co.uk](http://www.ictgames.co.uk) , [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk) , [www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk](http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk) , [www.iboard.co.uk](http://www.iboard.co.uk) , [www.nrichmaths.org](http://www.nrichmaths.org) and the BBC websites are also very useful.

*We trust you find this information useful. Thank you from the Year 3 Team.*



