

**Summer 2024**  
**Curriculum Newsletter for Parents**  
**Year 3 Class teachers – Ms Dominique and Ms Bishop**

Dear Parent,

Your child will be working on the following curriculum during this half-term. Please feel free to email [yearthree@st-peter.bardaglea.org.uk](mailto:yearthree@st-peter.bardaglea.org.uk) if you have any queries.

### Mathematics

In Maths this term, we will continue to revise the times tables (with emphasis on the 2, 3 4's and 8's). Please continue to make sure your child revises their times tables at home. Little and often is best; allow your child to be very confident with the times table that they are working on before moving onto the next. Times Table Rock Star continues to be an excellent resource; we suggest 10 minutes practice a day. The internet has a wide variety of support material that may be of use to you. We may be giving times table tests at various intervals to check their progress.

We will continue to follow the 'Can do Maths' approach.

The topics we will look at over the next few weeks are;

- Fractions (calculating)
- Measurement: Time
- Measurement: Length, mass and capacity

In our 'Maths On Track' meetings we be covering the following.

- Multiplication
- Division
- Subtraction
- Mental strategies

### Computing

In this half term, the children will continue learning about branching databases and begin to learn about graphing, using support packages on Purple Mash. As usual, we will begin our term with a refresher on Internet Safety. Some of the success criteria is as follows:

Branching Databases:

- Children have completed a branching database about vegetables.
- Children can select and save appropriate images.
- Children can create a branching database.
- Children know how to use and debug their own and others branching databases.

Graphing

- Children can set up a graph with a given number of fields.
- Children can enter data for a graph.
- Children can produce and share graphs made on the computer.
- Children can use the sorting option to make analysis of their data easier.

### English

#### **One Plastic Bag – Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia by Miranda Paul, illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon**

The true story of Isatou Ceesay who saw the problem that the proliferation of plastic bags was causing in her country, the Gambia, contaminating the environment and killing the goats that swallowed them. She collaborated with other local women to crochet thread made from the plastic bags to create purses resulting in a thriving trade and reducing pollution. The illustrator grew up in West Africa and has used colourful papers and leftover shopping bags in the creation of her pictures.

**Writing Outcomes:**

- Persuasive poster
- Writing in role
- Non-chronological report
- Biography

**Vocabulary and Grammar Focus:**

- Varying nouns and pronouns to avoid repetition.
- Paragraphs
- Word families
- Formal language
- Conjunctions
- Adverbials

### Science – Light and Shadows

In this unit children will explore the differences between light sources and light reflectors, and will sort these into two groups. They will be able to describe how shadows are formed and will explore the relationship between light, objects and the formation of shadows. They will work towards completing a Quest entitled, 'How Can We Make Shadows Change?' and they will create and change shadows in the context of a puppet shadow play. In this play they will explore the properties of materials that can cast shadows and use the scientific terms opaque, translucent and transparent to describe these materials. Finally, children will demonstrate an understanding of the possible dangers to health that the Sun, as a strong source of light, holds for them and others.

Working Scientifically, children will set up simple comparative and fair tests to compare materials, and they will make systematic and careful observations of shadows. They will make careful observations and measurements of shadows and record and report on their findings. They will have the opportunity to look for patterns in the way that the sizes of shadows change.

**P.E**

In PE Year 3 the children will be continuing with their physical exercise programme. Where there are opportunities, we will be teaching them outside. This half term they will be participating in tennis and OAA games.

**Music**

This half term, we will be following the curriculum where possible and learning songs around the theme, 'Bringing us together'. Children will listen and appraise a range of Disco top hits and learn and perform a song.

**PSHE**

This half term, our new topic is 'Aiming High'. Children will focus on goals and aspirations. Children will identify ways of applying a growth mindset to new challenges and learn about the importance of resilience. Children will also have the opportunity to think about the specific skills they might wish to develop in order to achieve their short, mid and long-term goals.

**MFL (French)**

We will be continuing to focus on French phonics and pronunciation, as we learn more vocabulary. This half term we will begin to understand the use of the different articles: le/la/les and un/une/des. We will begin to use common phrases to ask questions, such as 'Je voudrais' (I would like...) We will also begin to write more at length, using the conjunction 'mais' (but) to extend our sentences.

**History**

In History, we will be looking at local history, focusing on how Dagenham has developed through the years. We will order events on a timeline can conduct historical research, while learning about important events, such as the Dagenham Ford company and its impact on the area around it. Next half term we will celebrate this topic with an educational visit to Valence House.

**Art  
Collages**

Children will be looking at the work of Jeannie Baker focusing on the natural environment. They will use her work and learn how to reproduce it by looking at blocks of colour. They will then move onto to looking at the use of textile within collage, assess the effects and create their own pieces.

**Trips**

**Library visit** - Date to be Confirmed  
**Visit to Heathway** - Date to be confirmed.

Please make use of our online resources at home

- Purple Mash
- Mathletics
- Times Table Rock Star