

Year Three – Spring Newsletter

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely, well-rested Christmas and a wonderful start to the new year. I'd like to thank you all for our lovely Christmas cards and presents, they were much appreciated so thank you very much! It is the start of Spring Term and Year Three will be getting stuck into some fun and interesting new topics which I am sure they will enjoy. I am organising some more trips for the rest of the year and I will let you know all about them once all the details have been confirmed.

Spring Curriculum

RE	<p>In RE this term we will be covering a variety of interesting topics including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Christmas - The Eucharist - Lent - Holy Week - Easter
Maths	<p>Additive Reasoning:</p> <p>In this topic we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Measuring, comparing, adding and subtracting length, mass and volume/capacity. - Adding and subtracting amounts of money. - Interpreting data (bar charts, pictograms and tables) <p>Geometric Reasoning:</p> <p>In this topic we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drawing 2-D shapes and make 3-D shapes using modelling materials. - Measuring the perimeter of simple 2-D shapes. <p>Number Sense:</p> <p>In this topic we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Counting up and down in tenths. - Recognising, finding and writing fractions of a set of objects. - Recognising and using fractions as numbers. - Adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator (e.g. $\frac{3}{5} + \frac{1}{5} = \frac{4}{5}$) - Comparing and ordering fractions with the same denominator. - Solving problems containing all of the above.

English	<p>This term we will be looking at a variety of text types, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formal and informal letters. - Persuasive letters. - Newspaper reports. - Non-chronological reports.
Science	<p>Forces and magnets:</p> <p>In this topic we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comparing how things move on different surfaces. - Observing how magnets attract or repel each other. - Comparing and grouping a variety of everyday materials based on their magnetic qualities. - Predicting whether two magnets will attract or repel each other, depending on which poles are facing. <p>Plants</p> <p>In this topic we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifying and describing the functions of different parts of flowering plants. - Exploring the requirements of plants for life and growth and how they vary from plant to plant. - Investigating the way water is transported within plants. - Exploring the life cycle of flowering plants.
PE	<p>The sports we are focussing on this term are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gymnastics. - Hockey. <p>Please note that the children need to have appropriate kit to take part in these lessons every week.</p>
History	<p>Ancient Egypt</p> <p>In this topic we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exploring how the Ancient Egyptian period fits into context in world history. - Investigating why the River Nile was so important to ancient Egyptians. - Studying how the ancient Egyptians farmed and worshipped. - Learning about hieroglyphics and pharaohs.
Geography	<p>Deserts (including the Arctic and Antarctica)</p> <p>In this topic we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Defining and understanding the key characteristics of a desert. - Exploring the locations of key desert regions around the world. - Comparing the climate zones of a sandy desert, to that of the arctic. - Comparing land use of different desert regions to the UK and the reasons for this.
Art	<p>Winslow Homer</p> <p>In this topic we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Studying the work and techniques of Winslow Homer.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing watercolour techniques of creating washes and adding detail. - Developing our figure sketching skills. <p>Egyptian Tiles:</p> <p>In this topic we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Studying Egyptian artwork. - Drawing Egyptian symbols and designs. - Transferring designs onto clay. - Painting our clay tiles.
DT	<p>Greenhouses:</p> <p>In this topic we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looking at greenhouses and their purpose/structure and they way that they work. - Developing an understanding of strong and stable structures and properties of materials that can be used to create a greenhouse. - Exploring different designs of greenhouses. - Constructing, testing and evaluating our greenhouses using a live plant.

Homework:

Please ensure that all homework set is completed to your child's best ability. All homework set is purposeful and is set with the expectation that it will be completed to a high standard. Spellings will continue to be set on a Friday and will be tested the following Friday. It is also an expectation that your child should read daily with an adult and that your child should bring in their **reading book** and **reading record every day**. Regular reading helps children to become mature and confident readers who have a passion for reading. Reading does not only help your child's attainment in English but across the whole curriculum so please do your very best to listen to your child read each evening.

Dates for your diary:

Below are a few important dates for your diary. Please note that these are subject to change; always check the diary and weekly newsletter for up to date information.

Thursday 13th February – Valentine's Disco

Sunday 16th February – First Holy Communion Programme (09:00)

Tuesday 18th February - Year Three and Four Class Mass (09:15-10:15)

Monday 24th February – Friday 22nd February: Half Term

Thursday 5th March- World Book Day

Sunday 8th March - First Holy Communion Programme (09:00)

Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th March - Parent Consultation Evenings

Tuesday 17th March- St Patrick's Day Coffee Morning (09:15)

Thursday 19th March – Year Three and Four Mothers' Day Lunch

Tuesday 7th April – Year Three and Four Easter Reflection (afternoon performance – time TBC)

Wednesday 8th April - Year Three and Four Easter Reflection (morning performance – time TBC)

Friday 10th April – Friday 24th April: Easter Holidays (inclusive)

Please visit our class blog to keep up to date with what we have been learning in Year Three. This will be updated on a regular basis. As always, should you have any questions, comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to come into school to discuss them with me.

Kind regards,

Miss McDonagh

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