



ST RICHARD REYNOLDS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

English



This half-term term the children will begin by looking at books by **Anthony Browne**. They will read '**Gorilla**' and '**The Tunnel**' and will be exploring the features of **adventure stories**. During Poetry Week the children will explore **poetry**- performing poetry as well as writing their own poems.

The children will also explore **fairy tales** and will write their own fractured fairy tales (a twist on a well-known fairy tale).

Next half term, the children will read '**The Firework Maker's Daughter**' by **Phillip Pullman**. They will explore further adventure and mystery books and will do many activities linked to this fantastic book. The children will end the term by writing their own **adventure stories**, influenced by The Firework Maker's Daughter.

Throughout the term we will focusing on **spelling and grammar**. The areas we will be focusing on are:

- Possessive apostrophes for singular possession
- Apostrophes in contractions
- Commas for lists
- Time conjunctions
- Place and cause conjunctions
- Use of an or a
- Alphabetical order
- Using a dictionary
- Suffix -ly
- Paragraphs
- Suffix -ous

Year 3 Autumn Term Curriculum Newsletter

2017 - 2018

The children will be introduced properly to **Bug Club**, which is an online learning platform for reading and the equivalent to our Abacus for Maths. The children will be using Bug Club books during guided reading sessions and will also be allocated e-books to read at home. The children will be expected to read these books on Bug Club and answer the 'bugs' which are comprehension questions.

Children have **spellings** to learn each week. The spelling rules for the weekly spellings will be explored and practised in school but the words should also be learnt at home. The spellings for the next six weeks are already in their homework folders and dates have been added to show which lists should be learnt each week.

This term there will be a huge focus on developing a **joined handwriting** style. The children will be practising joined handwriting at school and should also be practising at home. Please continue to use Letter-join: <https://www.letterjoin.co.uk/> to support them at home.

Maths



This term, children will be exploring a range of mathematical concepts. They will use **multiple of 5 and 10 bonds to 100** to solve additions and subtractions and **add and subtract 1-digit numbers to and from 2-digit numbers**. They will also **compare and order 2- and 3-digit numbers; count on and back in 10s and 1s; add and subtract 2-digit numbers;** and solve problems using place value.

Children will explore multiplication and division facts for the **5, 10, 2, 4 and 3 times-tables** and **doubling and halving**. They will learn about **calendars**, including days, weeks, months, years and will revisit telling the **time to the nearest 5 minutes** on **analogue** and **digital** clocks.

Children will learn about the properties of **3D shapes** and increase their understanding of **fractions** and fractions of numbers. They will use **money** to add and subtract and record using the correct notation and place value. Children will explore **length and capacity** and choose appropriate instruments to measure, using **mm, cm, m, l and ml**.

Partitioning will be used as a method to add and subtract numbers and children will learn to **round 3-digit numbers to nearest 100**.

Whilst exploring all the different mathematical concepts, there will be a focus on applying the concepts to solve problems.

Children will still be using **Abacus** online learning platform to support their learning and will be expected to play the Maths games allocated to their account.

R.E.



The first R.E. topic will be '**Homes**'. In this topic the children will explore how God is present in every home and is expressed in the love that binds the family together through good times and bad times. The second topic will be '**Promises**' and the children will explore the promises made at **Baptism** and **Confirmation** and that they are the call to a new way of life. Nearer Christmas, the children's R.E. topic will be '**Visitors**'. For Christians, this topic emphasises the coming of God, in the person of Jesus, 2,000 years ago at

Bethlehem. He was not a passing visitor, but One who comes to dwell among us.

The children will also learn about the special places of worships for both **Jews** and **Muslims** this term.

Science



This half-term the children will be learning about **forces and magnets**. They will learn about forces in the context of pushing and pulling and will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate **friction**. Children will also identify **magnetic materials** and explore the way **magnetic poles** can attract and repel. Finally the children will use their understanding of magnetic attraction to design and create their own magnetic game.



Next half-term the children's Science topic will be '**Light**'. Children will learn about different **sources of light**, and that we need light to see. They will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate **reflective materials** and they will learn that the **sun's light** can be dangerous. The children will have the chance to test which objects are **opaque** and they will develop their scientific enquiry skills, making observations, predictions and conclusions.

Topic



The topic this term is a History topic: **Ancient Egypt**. The children will learn about what **daily life** was like for Ancient Egyptians and the importance of the **River Nile** to their civilisation. They will also explore hieroglyphics, Egyptian Gods and Goddesses, the building of pyramids and mummification.

Computing

This term, children will be developing their **coding** skills, as well as talking about **online safety** and using **spreadsheets**. Children will be introduced to **Purple Mash**, our new online learning platform for Computing.

D.T.



In D.T. the children will be making **Top Trumps** cards of Ancient Egyptian Gods. They will be completing a **product analysis** of Top Trump cards and then **designing** and **making** their own cards. This is a graphics unit and therefore will focus on images, text and layout to create an effective design.

Art

The Art topic next half-term will be '**Autumn**'. The children will learn about how to use pencil, colour, paint, print, collage and paper to create quality artwork. They will explore the work of several paintings of autumn scenes and also works by **Matisse** and **Cezanne**.

French



Children will reinforce **greetings, introductions** and how to say **where they live**- asking and answering questions about themselves and others. As well as **numbers** and **months**, including how to say when their **birthday** is. They will also cover French festivals such as **Remembrance Day** and **Christmas** in France.

Music

Children will study **songs, sounds** and **rhythms** from the **jungle**, and then work on **Christmas songs** after half term. In doing so, they will develop their skills in **pitching, rhythm** work, **note reading, co-ordination** and **singing in parts**.

P.E.

This term children will be learning about skills and tactics in **basketball** and **football**. In both sports they will develop and refine their performance in **dribbling, passing** and **shooting**. They will get experience in learning the rules in small sided games and understand more about **attacking** and **defending**.

Children will also be focusing on **dance** this term. This unit will be linked to their history topic of Ancient Egypt. The children will focus on **body shape** and **rhythm** to create dances which reflect elements of Ancient Egyptian civilisation.

Reminder: Children will need their P.E. kit in school every Wednesday and Thursday. This should consist of shorts, t-shirt, tracksuit bottoms and trainers. All items should be named and please ensure girls who wear tights have socks for P.E.

Homework

The children will still be expected to complete a **main homework task** each week which should last about half an hour. As well as **daily reading, learning weekly spellings, practising times tables** and completing **Abacus Maths games**. Homework will be set on Friday and due in the following **Wednesday**.

Class Fund

If you would like to contribute to the Year 3 class fund, please send the money into school in a sealed envelope, with your child's name, class and clearly labelled 'class fund'. In the juniors we suggest £5 a term and this is completely voluntary. The money will go towards further enhancing the children's learning by purchasing items which would not always be possible.

Communication

The best way to communicate with Miss Sheehan is in person at drop off or pick up (more convenient at pick up) or by giving your child a letter/note to hand in. Meetings can also be arranged to talk about concerns/issues in more depth. Miss Sheehan can be reached by email at primary@srrcc.org.uk, but please note that this isn't always the most efficient means of communication.

Tie Licences

Don't forget that children need to gain their tie licence by Christmas. When they are ready to try for it, they should bring their proper tie into school and they will be tested. Once children gain their tie licence, they no longer need to wear their elastic tie.

Important Dates

Wednesday 20th September- Reception children start full time

Friday 22nd September- School Photos

Monday 25th September- Friday 28th September- Poetry Week

Monday 25th September- Poet visit and book signing after school

Thursday 28th September- Poetry Exhibition

Wednesday 11th October- House Afternoon

Monday 16th October- Friday 20th October- School Closed

Monday 23rd October- Friday 27th October- Half-term

Tuesday 31st October- Parents Evening

Wednesday 1st November- All Saints Day. New build opening mass

Thursday 2nd November- Parents Evening

Monday 20th November- Flu vaccinations

Friday 1st December- School closed

Thursday 7th December- Infant Nativity

Wednesday 20th December- House Afternoon

Friday 22nd December- End of term