



ST RICHARD REYNOLDS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Year 3 Summer Term Curriculum Newsletter

2017 - 2018



Welcome back to what will be the final term in Year 3. We hope you had a lovely Easter holiday and the children are refreshed and ready for what will be another fun-filled term of learning.

This term the children will continue to be taught by myself on Monday, Tuesday and Friday and in this time we will be learning the subjects: Maths, English, Science, P.E., D.T. and Art. Mrs Morgan will be teaching the children on a Wednesday and they will be learning R.E. and Computing, as well as leading their own class worships. Their topic work this term, will also continue to be taught by Ms Taylor on a Thursday morning.

As you are aware, Year 3 will be starting their swimming lessons on a Monday morning and Mr Kenny will meet the children each week at St Catherine's. Miss Williams will continue to teach the children Music and Madam Bentham will now be teaching them French- both these lessons will take place on a Thursday.

*The children are also going to have the exciting opportunity of the Year 3 sleepover at school on **Friday 29th June**, so please look out for further details about this.*

I am very much looking forward to this last term with Year 3, as I know it will be another exciting one.

Miss Sheehan

English

Throughout this term there will be a focus on developing the children's **reading comprehension skills**. The children will develop their understanding of key vocabulary when answering questions about what they have read. For example, **inference, cause and effect, fact and opinion, summarising, purpose and compare and contrast**.

Through our focus on reading, we hope to not only improve the children's reading comprehension skills but also develop further their love of reading and books. The children will now be able to borrow books from our wonderful collection in our primary library and will be encouraged to read and enjoy a range of fiction and non-fiction books.

A lot of the children's learning in English this term will be linked to our Rainforest topic. They will be creating their own stories set in a rainforest and there will be a focus on their **descriptive writing**. They will be striving to include **exciting adjectives, powerful verbs, similes, alliteration and onomatopoeia** to create powerful description.

As a class we will also be reading the book: 'The Great Kapok Tree' by Lynne Cherry. Using this text as inspiration, we will holding **debates** about deforestation and writing **persuasive arguments**. And after creating dishes in D.T., we will be writing **instructions** of how to create our dishes.

Throughout the term we will be reviewing the **spelling and grammar** already learnt this year, but two topics will be learnt: the **prefixes auto-, anti- and super-** and **possessive apostrophes for plural nouns** (e.g. the girls' coats or the children's classroom).

The children will continue to be encouraged to 'learn spellings for life' and not just for a test and will have weekly spelling sent home, with the hope they continue to complete spelling activities involving them.

The children are still developing their joined handwriting style and as well as in class practise they should be using a joined style for all class and home work.

Maths



This term children will again be exploring a wide range of Maths topics. Children will continue to mentally add and subtract numbers to and from **3 digit numbers**, crossing both ten and hundreds. They will secure their knowledge of the **expanded written method** for addition and move onto to compact **column addition**.

They will continue to use their recall of **2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables** to solve both multiplication and division problems, including multiplying multiples of 10 by these numbers. Division problems will also involve those with **remainders**. The children will consolidate their understanding of the **grid method** to multiply 2 digit numbers by 1 digit numbers.

Fractions will be revisited and children will be **comparing and ordering fractions**, as well as recognising **equivalent fractions**. The children will also learn how to **add and subtract fractions** with common denominators. Children's understanding of

tenths will improve and they will learn to calculate tenths of multiples of ten and one digit numbers.

The children will draw and interpret **bar charts** and **pictograms**, where one square or symbol represents more than one unit. They will also be looking at **weight** and estimate and weigh objects to the nearest 100g. As well as recognising how many **grams** in a **kilogram**.

Children will identify, name and draw **horizontal, vertical, perpendicular, parallel and diagonal lines**, as well as **angles** and **symmetry** in **2D shapes**. They will revisit **perimeter** of 2D shapes and calculate by counting and measuring with a ruler.

Time will also be revisited and they will continue to work on telling the time to the nearest minute on both analogue and digital clocks. They will also learn to recognise **am** and **pm** and **24-hour clock** times, as well as calculating the time 5, 10 and 20 minutes later than given times.

The children will continue to solve **worded problems** and will have to decide which of the 4 operations is to be used (addition, subtraction, multiplication or division).



R.E.

There will be three different R.E. topics this term. The first will be '**Energy**', where we will focus on Pentecost and the importance of the Holy Spirit in our lives. The second will be '**Choices**' and in this topic the children will understand the importance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The final topic will be '**Special Places**' and we will be exploring special places for Jesus and the Christian community.

It will also be a very special time for many of the children in the class as they will be making their first Holy Communion. We will be celebrating this special time within school and will be holding a special mass on **Friday 8th June** at 9am, which parents are welcome to attend (further details to follow).

Science

This term both of our Science topics will link nicely to our Geography topic of the Rainforest. In the first half-term the children will be looking at **Plants** and they will explore the parts of a plant and the function of all the different parts. They will also investigate what plants need to grow and the transportation of water within a plant. They will finish the topic by looking at the life cycle of a plant and learn about fertilisation and pollination.



The second topic will be **Animals, including humans**. Children will be looking at nutrition for both animals and humans, as well as their bones, muscles and skeleton. They will learn to name bones and the function of the skeleton and muscles.



Topic

Topic this term will have a geography focus and the children will be learning about the **Rainforest**. Children will be looking at where in the world we find rainforests and the climate in these areas of the world. They will look at the structure of the rainforest and the animals and plants you find within rainforests. As a part of the topic the children will visit **The Living Rainforest** to help with their understanding and further their learning.

Computing

In computing this half term, children will use a programme called 2Type which is designed to help learn the basis of quick and efficient typing. Children will understand the correct way to sit at the keyboard and learn how to use the home, top and bottom row keys. They will practice the keys typed with both the left and right hand.

After half term using Purple Mash the children will explore 2Email, which is a safe place to teach how to use email. This program only works within Purple Mash and pupils can only email Purple Mash users in their school which supports online safety. Children will learn how to email safely and to add an attachment to an email.

D.T.

This half-term, the children's D.T. topic will be **pop-up books**. The children will be designing and making pages for a pop-up book about the rainforest, our Geography topic.

Art

Next half-term, the Art topic will be 'Bodies'. This unit will teach how to use a range of mediums to create quality artwork that shows progression in skills. The children will also have the opportunity to explore the work of 'Bodies' artists Julian Opie, Alberto Giacometti and Henry Moore.

French

Children will learn about **family members** in French and be able to describe their family. They will also learn the **present tense** and some will be able to use **the conditional** and/or the **future tense**. Children will also cover **French speaking countries**.

Music

Children will develop their **singing** skills and **string instrument** technique to understand rhythmic patterns (to include semi-quavers and rests), melodies in 3/4 and 4/4 time signatures, performing at varying dynamic levels, articulation (legato and staccato playing styles), and varying speeds (largo, allegro, presto). They will further develop their singing technique in preparing for the Richmond Prom.

Children will explore Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf, then develop their composition skills through creating music to match different moods and characters.

P.E.

As you are aware, this term the children will be having **swimming** lessons as a part of their P.E. They will work on water safety, confidence and will learn the basic movements of the front and back crawl.

This first half-term, children will also be taking part in the new SRR Dance Challenge, which is for all children in Year 1-4. Throughout this challenge, they will be taught different elements of dance and will be choreographing their own dance in small groups, trying to incorporate these elements.

Next half-term, children will continue to progress their athletic skills of jumping, running, throwing in preparation for sports day.

Reminder: Children need to wear their P.E. kit to school on a Monday, as well as remembering their swimming kit (swimming costume, school swimming hat, towel and optional goggles). Please remember that all items should be clearly named.

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**, completing **Abacus Maths games** and reading their e-books on **Bug Club**. Homework will be set on Friday and due in the following **Wednesday**.

Important Dates

Tuesday 24th April- English Curriculum Evening

Wednesday 2nd May- Meet new Head of Primary and Admissions Talk for all Primary parents

Friday 4th May- St Richard Reynolds Feast Day

Monday 7th May- Bank Holiday

Tuesday 8th May- Living Rainforest Trip

Monday 14th-Wednesday 16th May- Miss Sheehan with Year 4 at Sayers Croft

Wednesday 23rd May- House Afternoon

Friday 25th May- Year 3 Class Assembly

Monday 28th May– Friday 1st June Half-term

Friday 8th June- First Holy Communion Mass

Monday 18th-Wednesday 20th May- Safe Walking

Friday 29th June- Year 3 Sleepover

Wednesday 11th July- Transition Day

Friday 13th July- Sports Day

Wednesday 18th July- House Afternoon

Friday 20th July- End of school year (1pm)