

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School



Year 3 Spring Term 1

English

In English, we will consolidate our Geographical learning through reading *The Great Kapok tree*, after which the children will write persuasive letters from the viewpoint of the rainforest animals. We will also revisit non-chronological reports, providing children the opportunity to strengthen their non-fiction writing skills. We finish the half term by writing formal letters to inform relevant people of what is happening to the world's rainforests.

Maths

This half term we will continue to practise our times tables and related division facts.

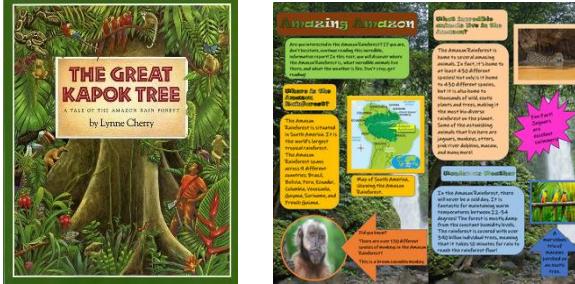
Year 3 then focus on time – we learn about timetables, duration, conversion and how to read both digital and analogue clocks. Children will have lots of practise using practical resources to support their understanding. Children will also look at manipulating the additive and applying taught strategies to their mental strategies. We will use a range of practical, pictorial and abstract resources.

Science

In Science, we will learn about rocks and fossils. Children will learn how to identify and categorise different types of rock, before learning about the process of fossilisation.

RE

In RE, children will know and understand the Christian family's journey with Jesus through the Church's year. We look at the different types of calendars that inform our lives, and how Christians experience the year with Jesus. As a class we discuss the similarities and differences between the different calendars. We then move on to learning about Lent, a time to remember Jesus' total giving. Pupils will know and understand Lent, a time to remember Jesus' total giving: Lent, an opportunity for giving.



Geography

In Geography, Year 3 will venture to the rainforests of the world whilst learning about the equator, hemispheres and tropics. Children will learn why rainforests are located in specific areas of the world, and then move on to comparing our local area to the Amazon rainforest by conducting some fieldwork. We will also embark on one of my favourite ever trips to the fantastic Sunderland Winter Gardens. A full day spent exploring a mini rainforest is a day well spent! Children will take part in an art workshop led by knowledgeable group leaders.

Computing

In Computing, children will learn how to communicate and collaborate with others when creating documents using ICT programmes.

Art

In Art, we will study The Great Wave by Hokusai. As a class, we will discuss the different aspects of the painting before practising and developing specific skills of our own. Children will then work towards creating their own art with a message.

Music

In Music, children will listen to some Reggae and pop music whilst also learning to sing 3 little birds

PSHE

In PSHE, we will learn about the Gospel story Jairus' daughter in various creative and reflective ways. Through story and discussion, children will learn that they are designed for a purpose and how they should live in light of this. A second session unpacks the Sacraments of Baptism and Reconciliation as a foretaste of heaven and a wonderful part of our relationship with God.

PE

In PE, with our NUFC coach, children will practise their agility skills in dodgeball. They will develop their hand-eye co-ordination alongside their teamwork skills. With Miss Haddow, the class will develop cross-curricular dances representing the rainforest.

French

The children will continue to practise saying numbers, items within our classroom, following classroom directions and how to start/participate in a conversation.

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

Dear Parents/Guardians

I hope you all had a great time over the holidays and spent time with loved ones. I hope everyone got some rest and managed to recharge those batteries, ready to come back and get stuck in. We have a shorter half term ahead, with exciting new units and trips planned. I look forward to another term of working together to support your child in making progress.

Key information

Homework – Spellings will be sent home on **Friday** and there will be a test the **following Friday**. Daily handwriting does incorporate their weekly spellings, so children have plenty of opportunity to practise. Children will read to me every week and books will be changed then; **books will be changed at least once a week** so please encourage **children to bring their books in every day**. Please record any reading in the reading record diary. I love to hear about all of the different books your child has been reading, not just the school book. **Children are also allowed and encouraged** to write in their own reading diaries as this is one way for me to assess their comprehension skills.

Children should have a **book bag** to carry letters, homework, reading books and their reading record. This is to come to school every day. No backpacks please as we have limited room in the classroom/cloakroom.

Please ensure that your child has a **water bottle in school at all times**.

P.E kits –**your child will wear their PE kit to school on PE days**.

The school PE kit should include: a blue t-shirt, blue shorts or jogging bottoms/leggings and trainers. No jewellery – including earrings - and all long hair to be tied back. We also ask that children wear their school jumper or cardigan on PE days when needed.

P.E. this term will be on **Tuesday and Wednesday**.

We encourage your child to do the following at home:

«15 minutes reading «15 minutes learning of spellings «15 minutes of Lexia learning «15 minutes on TTRockstars «Topic related homework when set>

I am available at the start and end of the day for quick catch-ups and questions; if you need a longer or more private conversation please contact the office to schedule an appointment. My office hours are 8 – 4 and I do try to respond to Seesaw messages and emails in that time.

Thank you for your continued co-operation and support,



Miss Haddow