



Year 3 Autumn Term 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back everyone after the Summer holidays! My name is Miss Dowson and I am your new teacher this year. I am looking forward to getting to know you all! In year 3, we have many exciting things in place to help with our learning. Our first topic for the year has a Geography focus, Rocks, Relics and Rumbles.



This topic will be cross-curricular and together we will explore and learn about rocks through some of our other subjects, for example Science, where we begin our first unit on rocks, soils and fossils. In this topic we will learn about the four layers of the Earth, learn to name and identify different properties of rocks and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biome and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes and the water cycle.

English - Our first topic for English is exploring the book 'The Secret Sky Garden' by Linda Sarah and Fiona Lumbers. This story is about Funni who creates a beautiful garden in the most unlikely of places and discovers a new friend while doing so. This wonderful story shows the impact small actions can make on a community and on



ourselves and will hopefully encourage the children to value and consider how to improve their own environment. Throughout the autumn term, we will be exploring different types of writing. Using their knowledge from other subjects to help inform their writing, we will learn how to write non-chronological reports and newspaper reports which will be based on what we have been learning in our topic. The children will also get to explore some poetry and have the opportunity to write their own poems. By exposing the children to different types of writing they will gain new skills which they can embed in other aspects of learning. To keep an element of cross-curricula learning, we will read 'The Firework Makers Daughter' by Phillip Pullman and begin to create our own setting and character descriptions using these book as a guide.

Maths - Throughout the autumn term we will work on place value, which will help within all areas of maths as it provides the children with the ability to understand the value of each of the digits in a number thus supporting them when it comes to addition and subtraction. Within this term we will also begin to look at shape and understand the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. There will also be a focus on multiplication and the children will be given the chance to revisit the times tables they have already learnt before being introduced to anymore. We will also work on the rapid recall of our multiplication tables and the associated division facts, which will help the children in all areas of maths. Problem solving strategies, will be built upon, with the problems becoming increasingly challenging. We will continue to explore patterns and the relationships between different strands in maths.



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RE - We will begin the academic year with the Domestic Church - To know and understand the joys and sorrows of being at home and God's vision for every family. We then move onto Belonging - To know and understand that belonging to a group involves promises and rules and the meaning of the promises made at Baptism. We then conclude the autumn term with Advent - To know and understand the demands and joys of visitors and waiting for the coming of Jesus.

PSHE - In term 1 - 'Being me in my World' which looks at children's rights and responsibilities, working and socialising with others, and pupil voice. In term 2 - 'Celebrating Difference' focuses on similarities and differences and teaches about diversity, such as disability, racism, power, friendships, and conflict. Resilience and resourcefulness will explore the challenges that we face and how to overcome them.

Science - We will be learning about rocks, soils and fossils. This unit is closely linked with our topic in Geography. The children will begin to learn about how to identify naturally occurring rocks and explore their uses, they will also explore soil and how it is formed and gain the skills to identify fossilised remains.

PE - For this term, our P.E days are a **Monday and Wednesday afternoon**. Please ensure that your child has kit appropriate for both indoor/outdoor sessions. Also, as the weather gets colder, please ensure that your child has jogging bottoms and a hoodie/sweatshirt to keep them warm. In the interest of safety, children with earrings will be **expected** to remove them.

Computing - To begin with all of the children will be reminded of how to behave when using the computing and accessing the internet. The children will be reminded of all internet safety rules in order to keep themselves and others safe while accessing the online world. Our first topic is coding, here the children will begin to learn new terminology in relation to coding as well as gain opportunities to put what they have learnt in practise.

Music - Charanga Musical School - All the learning in the first unit is focused around one song: Let your spirit fly, an R&B song by Joanna Mangona. After the half term we will begin stage 1 of learning the glockenspiel.

Homework - The homework tasks that the children will be expected to complete are as follows: Read - Encourage your child to read as much as possible as this will help with their comprehension and give them ideas for their own writing (daily). Practise spellings (daily), Times table practise (daily), Mathematics task/activity (weekly), English task/activity (weekly). There may also be topic/RE each half term.

We are looking forward to welcoming you back for an exciting and busy year ahead.
Miss Dowson and Mrs Maye.