



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

Termly Curriculum Information for Parents -Year 3

What your child will be learning about this Summer Term and how you can help at home

English

Writing:

This term, Year 3 will be studying a range of high quality narrative texts, including the exciting fiction writing of Anne Fine and Roald Dahl. The children will be reading the following texts: *Diary of a Killer Cat* by Anne Fine and *The Twits* by Roald Dahl. These high quality texts will be used to model writing, inspire the children's own writing and extend skills in vocabulary, grammar and spelling. We will be continuing to encourage the children to write for a purpose, e.g. retelling and writing stories, formal letters, instructions, poems, non-chronological texts and diary entries.

Grammar:

The children will learn how to use the following grammatical features in their writing: how to use prefixes, such as *super-*, *anti-*, and *-auto*; and how to express time, place and cause using conjunctions (e.g. *when*), adverbs (e.g. *then*, *next*), or prepositions (e.g. *before*, *after*). They will also extend their range of sentences with **more than one clause** by using a wider range of conjunctions (e.g. *when*, *if*, *because*, *although*).

Reading:

In daily reading lessons, the children will be developing their reading fluency, comprehension skills and ability to read with expression.

How you can help:

Encourage your child to read a variety of literature, including magazines and newspapers, letters, diary entries, poetry and fiction / non-fiction books written by different authors. Help your child to learn their spellings each week. Listen to your child read on a regular basis, asking them questions to make sure they have understood what they have been reading. If you can, join your local library and encourage your child to borrow a new book of their choosing every week.



Maths:

This term, Year 3 will be learning the following:

Number: Fractions

Recognising and showing, using diagrams, equivalent fractions with small denominators; adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator within one whole; comparing and ordering unit fractions, and fractions with the same denominators; and solving problems that involve fractions.

Measurement: Time

Telling and writing the time from an analogue clock, including using Roman numerals from I to XII, and 12-hour and 24-hour clocks; estimating and reading time with increasing accuracy to the nearest minute; recording and comparing time in terms of seconds, minutes and hours; using vocabulary such as o'clock, a.m./p.m., morning, afternoon, noon and midnight; and knowing the number of seconds in a minute and the number of days in each month, year and leap year.

Measurement: Statistics

Using bar charts, pictograms and tables to interpret and present data and to solve one-step and two-step questions [for example, 'How many more?' and 'How many fewer?']

Measurement: Money

Recognising pounds and pence, add and subtract amounts and calculate change. Children will also compare and order amounts of money and solve real-life problems, such as working out totals when shopping. This unit helps build confidence with numbers while developing important everyday life skills.

How you can help: Ask your child to explain their mathematical thinking to you (e.g. "What strategy did you use?").

By the end of Year 3, the children are expected to know 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, and 10 times tables. Encourage your child to log on to *Times Tables Rockstars*: <https://ttrockstars.com> to practice for 10 minutes each day.

Science

Plants

This term, Year 3 will be learning to observe, describe and identify the function of parts of a plant (roots, stems, flowers and leaves). The children will also be learning to explore what plants need to grow. They will be learning to describe in detail the similarities and differences in a variety of roots, and to relate these to the function of roots.

Working scientifically, Year 3 will be learning to explain their observations of water being transported in plants through the stem. They will be learning to make detailed observations of the similarities and differences in a variety of leaves, and relate these to the function of leaves. The children will also be learning to identify and compare parts of flowers and describe their functions. They will be learning to name the main stages of a flowering plant's life cycle: describing the process of insect pollination and explaining methods of seed dispersal. Year 3 will also be learning to create a dictionary of plant vocabulary.

Visit www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z6svr82 for a selection of science videos.

Music

This term, Year 3 will be learning songs from around the world and making music using un-tuned percussion instruments, e.g. djembes, drums, shakers and tambourines. The children will be listening to a range of live music performed by visiting musicians, and listening to and learning about recorded hip hop music. They will also be learning about standard musical notation, including the treble clef and the semibreve.

Computing

This term, Year 3 will learn about **information and communication technology**: the children will be learning to programme sequences and sounds using a basic computer tool. They will learn that a programme has a start and learn how to change the appearance of a project. They will also learn that commands can be put into a specific sequence.

Year 3 will also be learning about **digital literacy**: they will be learning to communicate effectively with adults and other pupils using email and to evaluate different ways of communicating online.

How you can help: Have a conversation with your child about being safe online. For some informative and age appropriate videos to start conversations, visit the following website: https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/



History

Ancient Civilisations: Egypt

This term, Year 3 will be learning to know the time and place of the earliest civilisations: they will be learning to explain what daily life was like in Ancient Egypt. The children will be learning to explain why the River Nile was so important in Ancient Egypt; to understand the religious beliefs of people in Ancient Egypt; to understand how and why the pyramids were built.

Geography

Scotland

This term, Year 3 will be learning to understand key features of Scotland, including learning about the capital city, Edinburgh. The children will also be learning about rural life in Scotland. The children will compare this to locations in South America including Chile and Galapagos Islands.

Religious Education

May is the month of Mary: we will pray the Hail Mary prayer every day remembering Mary our mother in heaven.

To the ends of the Earth: The children will be reminded of the series of events after the Resurrection of Jesus. They will look at how Mass today mirrors Mass celebrated by the first disciples and the story of Emmaus where Jesus' friends recognised him when he blessed and broke the bread. The children will explore the mystery of the Holy Trinity, including works of art and symbolism, developing their sense of awe and wonder. The children will learn that through Mary, the Holy Spirit guided the first disciples and that Mary continues to guide our own prayers.

Dialogue and Encounter: The children will learn about the history of the story behind the Jewish festival of Passover, when the Hebrew people were liberated from slavery in Egypt. They will learn to make simple links between the Last Supper, Passover and the sharing of unleavened bread and wine at Mass with Jesus' instruction to "Do this in memory of me". The children will learn about the Muslim faith and how people of Islam live their faith according to the five central beliefs of faith, prayer, almsgiving, fasting and pilgrimage.

Art and design

Collage and Textiles (Stitching and Animal Collages)

This term, Year 3 will be learning to understand the significance of textiles in other cultures. The children will be learning to stitch and to make a collage. They will be learning to make collages out of newspaper.

Digital Media (Exploring Digital Images)

This term, Year 3 will be learning to create a digital collage. The children will be learning to alter images and explore scale and composition. They will be learning to alter images to create an original design based on traditional Greek art and to alter images in the style of Andy Warhol. Year 3 will also be learning to create a digital still-life collage.

Design Technology

The children will be exploring, designing, creating and evaluating **mini greenhouses** in their unit of work about **structures**.

Food Technology

Year 3 will be learning about the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet. The children will also use a range of cooking techniques to prepare **Super Veggie Spring Rolls**.

PSHCE

This term, Year 3 will learn that similarities and differences between people arise as they grow and make choices, and that by living and working together, we create community. The children will learn what emotional well-being means; that positive actions help emotional well-being; and that emotions change as they grow up.

Year 3 will learn that talking to trusted people helps emotional well-being and about ways to maintain and develop good, positive, trusting relationships. The children will learn to recognise that images in the media do not always reflect reality and can affect how people feel about themselves. They will learn that some behaviour is wrong, unacceptable, unhealthy and risky, and that good friendship is when both persons enjoy each other's company and want what is truly best for the other.

Spanish

The children will be studying the following topics in this term's Spanish lessons, led by our specialist Spanish teacher: weather, foods, ways of transportation, sports, feelings and summer. The children will also learn to sing Spanish songs and play Spanish games.

PE

Year 3 will need to come to school dressed in their PE kits on **Thursday morning**.

Year 3 will be developing their ball skills, co-ordination and footwork by playing invasion games, such as football, rounders and tag rugby.

How can I help at home?

Make it clear that you value homework – set aside a specific time and area for your child to work on their homework.

Encourage your child to **read a variety of texts**, not just books from school.

Listen to your child read and ask them **questions** about the text to help their **understanding**. For example, discuss what happened in the story. Ask your child questions about the story, such as, 'Would you make the same choices as the characters? Why? Why not?' Encourage your child to back up their opinion with evidence from the text.

Encourage your child to do **every day mathematics**, such as telling the time, using bus / train timetables or working out the total / change in a shop.

Help your child practise their **2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables**.

Help your child to be organised:

- ◇ Have you got your **book bag**? Needs to be in school **every day**.
- ◇ Are **ALL** your reading books inside it?
- ◇ Have you completed your **homework**? Homework should be brought into school with reading books every **Wednesday**.

