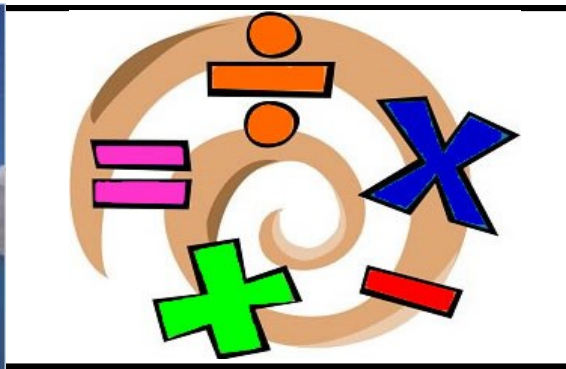
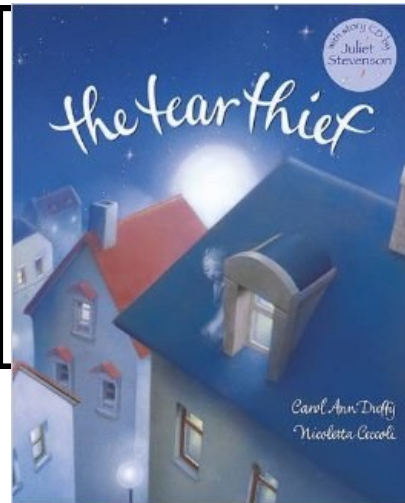


TERMtalk

CURRICULUM NEWS FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Issued termly Unit 3 and 4 Year 3 January 2016



English

This term we will be focusing on fictional texts including: **The Tear Thief, The Giving Tree and Tin Forest.** Students will have the opportunity to write a range of text types including instructional writing, diary entries and narratives. In handwriting we will continue to learn the letter families and focus on forming and joining letters correctly. Each week in spelling we will be focusing on a specific spelling rule we will be given as homework. Please assist your child with this. As part of the new national curriculum, there is a heavy focus on grammar and punctuation. Please encourage your child to read back their work checking for possible errors and help them edit their

Please continue to encourage your child to read at home every night and sign their reading diary on a regular basis. They need to read for at least 20 minutes each night.

Maths

We began the Spring term by looking at place value for numbers up to 500. Our next focus will be on calculation and developing our understanding of expanded written method for addition and subtraction.

Other topics that we will be covering in the first part of the Spring term include: 3D shape, Data Handling and Multiplication and Division.

After the half term break we will be learning about fractions, time, mass and capacity as well as further work on the 4 operations: Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division.

By the end of the Spring term the children should be able to quickly recall the multiplication and related division facts for the 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables.

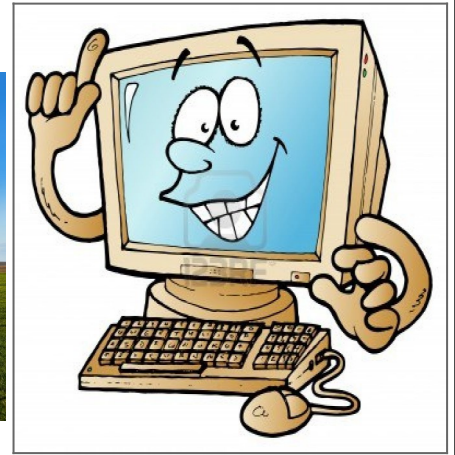
Any additional support that can be given at home with this, will be much appreciated.

Science

Our topic this half term is Magnets and forces. In order to explore the concepts of forces and movement. The children will begin by predicting then investigating which common materials are magnetic or non-magnetic and making generalisations about them based on their results. They will also be investigating how things move on different surfaces and Notice that some forces need contact between two objects, but magnetic forces can act at a distance. They will Observe how magnets attract or repel each other and attract some materials and not others

After half term the next topic will be 'Rocks'
We will look at the three different types of rock and how each are formed. The children will find out the names of the rocks and their properties. They will test rocks for hardness and find out about the different uses for the different rocks. Do you know the name of the rock that floats?

OUR FOUNDATION



Art and D&T

We will be linking our art and T session with Geography/history. Children will have the opportunity to paint Stonehenge's and roundhouses (links with history)

We are also looking forward to making some Mother's Day cards and Easter pieces of Art. During Lent, the children will be representing Jesus' journey to Calvary, in pictures and paintings.



History

This term we have been learning about life in Britain before the Roman invasion.

We began by looking at the chronology of prehistoric Britain and then we started our study of life in the Stone Age. To help us understand what the Stone Age was like, we read a lovely picture book called Stone Age Boy by Satoshi Kitamura.

Our study of the late Stone Age also included using the internet to investigate Skara Brae (which is Europe's most complete Neolithic village).

This half term we have begun looking at the Bronze Age and Iron Age and the changes that occurred in this period of history. We will be investigating how the introduction of metals such as Copper, Bronze and Iron changed life in Britain.

As this topic covers over 8000 years of history, there has been lots to learn!

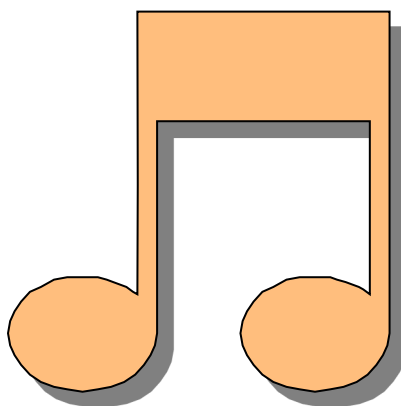
Computing

Last term the children were developing their ICT and word processing skills through learning to type.

Children have been learning how to code using a program called Tynker. Children have been issued with logins and passwords, this means they can access the activities at home.

Our next topic will be using an app on the ipads called sketch nation. They will use this to create simple computer games.

SUBJECT NEWS



RE

Our RE themes for the Autumn term are;

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Eucharist

We will be studying 'Islam' for a week after half term

See separate sheet for detail.

Music

The Year 3 children are continuing their music lessons with half of each lesson concentrating on the violin. They have been learning how to read music and when they become more confident, they will be learning more new notes. The hard work is paying off and there are definite signs of improvement being shown.

The children also attend Hymn Practice each week and we are now preparing for school Masses and class Masses

Physical Education

We will begin our P.E. lessons by ensuring that the children understand the **safety rules** required during P.E. and follow them carefully.

The focus of indoor P.E. lessons this term will be **Taekwondo**. There will be a visiting teacher, who will be teaching the children on Mondays. The emphasis is on discipline and control. The children are not allowed to practise some of the Taekwondo moves outside the PE lesson. This is because they could be dangerous. Please support us with this.

In outdoor P.E. we will be concentrating on Basketball. We are focusing on developing and improving controlling the ball. The children will then apply these skills.

PE KIT MUST BE LABELLED
Please make sure your child has the correct P.E. kit at all times. P.E. kit should be brought to school every Monday and must not be taken home until Friday!