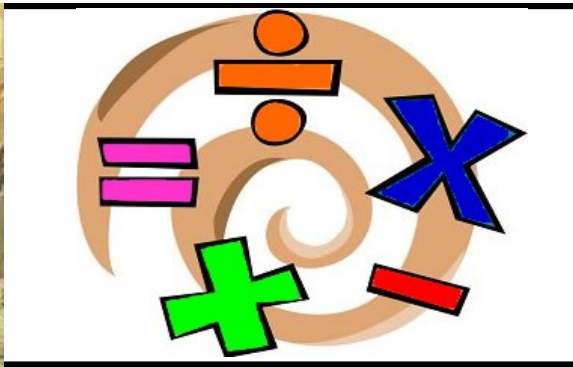


TERMtalk

CURRICULUM NEWS FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Issued termly Unit 3 and 4 Year 3 January 2015



English

The children will continue to write with the school writing style. Most children are joining up their letters. However, all children need to continue to practice this. Your support at home would be gratefully received.

Our first topic for the year is Reciting Poetry.

Children will be learning a poem and acting it out using actions, expression and voice tone.

They will then study the fiction unit of 'Adventure Stories' They will read, listen to and discover their own Adventure stories. Can you encourage them with this? Could you retell the favourite stories that you heard when you were younger?

They will then write their own adventure story.

Our non-fiction unit this term will be 'Non-Chronological' reports. Then a unit learning about

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

At the beginning of the term, we will be finishing off 'Magnets' and do some investigations.

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?

After half term, we will be studying 'Plants'

We will grow some beans, planting the seeds, watching the root system develop and shoot growing. The children will find out what the plants need to be healthy and will take measurements. They will run experiments to find out if plants can grow without light, can grow without leaves, can grow without water.

If it possible for you to grow a small plant for them to observe, then this will be helpful.

They will all visit the allotment during this time.



OUR FOUNDATION



Art and D&T

We will be linking the Art work to the Geography topic of 'Local Area'

They will be locating where they live and the journey to school from their road. They will paint themselves travelling to school.

After half term we will be working on Design and Technology and we will be designing and making artefacts linked with our RE topic of Islam.

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.



Geography

In the first part of the half term we will be learning about the United Kingdom. We will be using maps to help us locate key locations within the country. We will look at different settlement types such as villages, towns and cities and make some comparisons between these. We will learn about the counties of England as well as doing some research on Scotland and Wales.

After the half term break, we will be focussing on London and our local area. We will be carrying out some field work in the vicinity of the school and further developing other key geography skills including using: the 4 points of a compass, grid references, and using simplified Ordnance survey maps.

We will also be carrying out local fieldwork to observe and record the features of the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies.

I.C. T.

Last term the children were developing their ICT and word processing skills through our class blogs. The children have learned how to post their own blog entries and to comment on each other's work.

The children have also experimented with selecting different fonts and changing their size, style and colour.

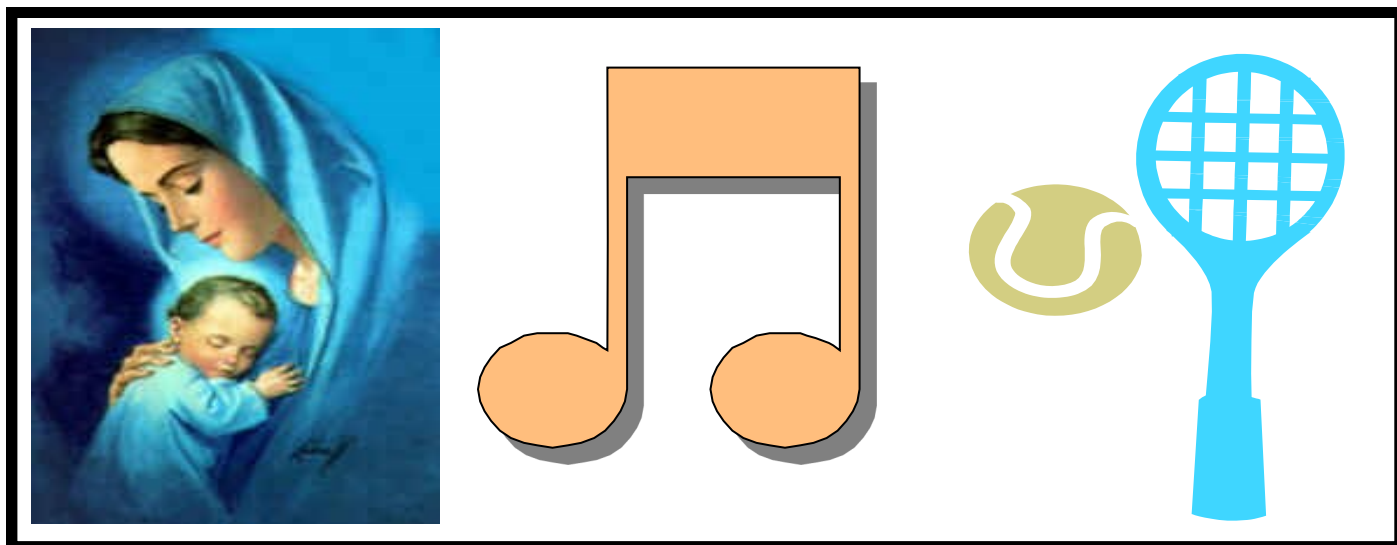
They have also learned how to import pictures to support their written work.

If they could have the opportunity to practice these skills at home or at the library, where computer use is free, they would progress these skills.

As they go through their school careers, they will be using the computer more and more and it is an advantage to become computer literate.

This term we will be concentrating on 'Programming' and 'E Books'

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 R.E. Newsletter for more details.](#)

Music

The Year 3 children are continuing their music lessons with half of each lesson concentrating on the recorder. 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. They are currently working hard to prepare for the next music concert.

Some children have also had the opportunity to learn the Ukulele or have Piano lessons. When learning any musical instrument, it is very important that the children remember to practice regularly.

The children also attend Hymn Practice each week and we are now preparing for school Mass-

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 hockey and Basketball. We are focussing 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!