



St Catherine's School
Haslewood Avenue
Hoddesdon
Hertfordshire
EN11 8HT
Acting Headteacher:
Mrs Devonshire

Curriculum Information Newsletter – Year 3
Autumn Term – 2023/24

Dear Families,

Welcome back to school after the long summer break. We hope you are looking forward to the exciting learning opportunities that we have in store for this year. The following staff will be responsible for teaching the year 3 students:

Miss Chaytor – Clock Tower class teacher

Mrs Burt and Mrs O'Connell – Rye Meads class teachers

Mrs Tye – Teaching Assistant

English

Within our English lessons we will be creating poems with 'light' as our inspiration. This links to science as 'light' is our topic for the first half term, and it also links to our school motto 'Let your light shine'. We will then be writing a non-chronological report about castles as it links to our geography topic of 'Are all settlements the same?' and our DT topic in which we will be making castles. Your child will be an expert since they did this in year 2.

After half term, our English unit will be based around the book 'Stone Age Boy' since our history topic is about the Stone Age/Iron Age/Bronze Age. Leading up to Christmas, we will be focusing on 'The Magic Box' and the children will be expressing themselves through poems again.

Maths

During the autumn term, we will learn about the numbers to 1000, practice counting in hundreds, fifties, tens, and ones and understanding how place value is important when comparing or ordering numbers.

As the term continues, we will begin to use addition and subtraction and then learn how to both add and subtract with renaming. We will also look at multiplication and division and how to solve a range of word problems.

For Year 3 children, it is essential that they are fluent in their 2, 5 and 10 times tables including division number facts so that we can move on to learning our 3, 4 and 8 times tables. Please support this learning at home and make use of Times Tables Rock Stars.

RE

During this term, we will be exploring Christianity; learning about the people of God, in particular 'What is it like to follow God?'. We will then be looking at the topic of incarnation, specifically focusing on 'What is the Trinity?'.

Science

As mentioned earlier, our science topic for the first half term is light. We will be learning about different light sources, sun safety, and how shadows are formed. After half term, we will be focusing on rocks. We will be conducting multiple investigations to explore the properties of different rocks.



Let your light shine



We will also learn about how fossils are formed and which elements makes soils different from others.

Computing

Across the term in our computing lessons we will be covering three different topics: coding, online safety, spreadsheets, and touch-typing. In our coding topic we will learn to write a computer programme to control a character or vehicle and then learn how to debug the programme. Our online safety topic will cover the importance of creating and using good passwords before learning that information online may or may not be accurate and truthful. We will also learn about the importance of age restrictions on games. During our spreadsheets lesson, we will be learning how to create pie charts, bar graphs, using functions such as more than, less than, and equal. Our touch-typing topic teaches the children which fingers to use for each button on the keyboard for speed and convenience.

Geography

Our topic for geography in the autumn 1 term is based around the question 'Are all settlements the same?'. This will involve learning about the different types of settlement, identifying the human and physical features in our local area, describing the land use in our local area, identifying the land use in New Delhi, and then comparing the land use in both locations.

History

Our topic for history the autumn 2 term is based around the question 'Would you prefer to live in the Stone Age, Iron Age or Bronze Age?'. We will explore the history of the Stone Age, Bronze Age, and Iron Age and how people survived. This will include their homes, tools, hunting and farming, Skara Brae, and Stonehenge. Pupils will learn similarly how they lived, farmed the land, and built their homes. Additionally, we will be looking at how the pyramids were constructed, mummification, pharaohs, and settlements around the river Nile.

Homework

Year 3 pupils are expected to complete an hour's worth of homework per week. This will include practicing their times tables on Times Tables Rock Stars <https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/46511> learning spellings which have been set for that week. Additionally, pupils will need to read three times per week for 15 minutes with an adult. Each pupil will receive a new St Catherine's reading record and we encourage you to record the date, book and a comment on how your child read. Each pupil will bring home a coloured book band reading book suitable for their ability. If a pupil is also reading a book from home this may count as their reading for pleasure book instead of one chosen at school.

Trips and visits

We have booked a history experience day for our Stone Age/Bronze Age/Iron Age topic in history in autumn 2. It will take place on 31.10.23 on the school field. Children may dress up in Stone Age outfits for this and they will live in the Stone Age for a day. Please see the separate Visit letter.

PE

P.E. is taking place this term on a Tuesday. Please ensure your child comes into school in their full P.E. kit on this day. Kit should include navy joggers with a navy t-shirt or sweatshirt, black or navy trainers or plimsolls. Please ensure longer hair is tied up and earrings are taken out prior to coming to school please.

We will also be swimming on a Thursday until half term. Please ensure your child has a swimsuit, towel and swimming hat with them in school that day. We are unable to accommodate pupils who forget kits at home and unfortunately, they would be unable to swim if this is the case. Parents may drop off kits in the school drop box and let the office know if convenient.



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Many thanks for your continued support, and if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us either through the school office or quickly at the end of the school day.

Miss Chaytor, Mrs Burt and Mrs O'Connell



Let your light shine

