



# ST JOHN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Headteacher: Mr M Ramsay B.A (Hons) Primary Education

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## Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter – Spring 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have all had a brilliant Christmas break and that you have managed to keep safe over the holidays. It's lovely to be in school and see everyone again. Miss Hodgson and I are so excited to welcome the children back.

### English

The English curriculum places a high emphasis on the enjoyment of reading. As you know, regular reading has a huge impact on your child's progress and your support is always greatly appreciated. Children should be reading every night – it doesn't always have to be with you. The children are coming to an age where they can be expected to read on their own but please do continue to sign their Learning Journal and ensure your child brings it to school each day.

Year 3 now have access to Rising Stars Reading Planets. The children should complete one book per week, which will be assigned on a Thursday and have been shown how to log in.

Below are two useful website for supporting children in English:

[www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk), which is great for those children who did not pass the phonics screening test and those who struggle to read fluently.

[www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar](http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar), which is designed to support children with their grammar and sentence writing.

Work on grammar, punctuation and spelling is a very important part of the English curriculum and the expected level of spelling is very high. Children will continue to be set spellings on a Thursday.

### Maths

The demands of the maths curriculum mean that counting skills (number pairs to 100, doubling and halving odd and even numbers to 100, counting in 4s, 8s and 50s) are essential. This term, there will continue to be a focus on mental maths and ensuring children feel confident completing simple calculations mentally.

They will also be learning how to solve real-life mathematical problems. Therefore, additional experiences at home with money, telling the time and baking (using scales to weigh ingredients) will help to build and embed these skills in a real life context. The children also need to be secure with the 2x, 3x, 4x, 5x, 6x, 8x and 10x tables, including the related division facts. Again, this will form part of the children's homework as they are expected to complete 300 correct answers on Times Tables Rock Stars each week.

We are very lucky to have access to Mathletics in school. This program, which allows the teacher to set tasks linked to the children's current learning, recaps and consolidates understanding. Again, your support and encouragement to use this program would be greatly appreciated. It is expected that children will complete 3 tasks per week, which will be set on a Thursday.

A useful website for maths:

[www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16&AgeGroup=3](http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16&AgeGroup=3), which is excellent for doubling, halving and times tables.

## Science

This half term, our Science topic is all about rocks and fossils, which I know the children will be pleased about! Additionally, we will be learning to work 'scientifically' when completing and recording our own practical experiments and learning how to carry out a fair test.

## Geography

Much to the delight of the children, our first Geography topic of the year is titled "Extreme Earth" and we will be learning all about volcanoes and earthquakes.

## R.E.

We will continue to study Christianity, exploring questions such as 'What is it like to follow God?'. The children experience daily collective worship either as a whole school or as a class, when they will reflect on the Christian value of friendship.

## PHSE

Our topic this term is 'Living in the Wider world.' This involves learning how to be safe online, understanding our human rights and reflecting on the children's aspirations for their future.

## PE

PE will continue to be on Tuesdays and Thursdays. PE kits need to remain in school over the course of the term. Please ensure that all uniform and PE kit is clearly named and if your child needs an inhaler, please ensure that they have on in school and that it is in date.

**IMPORTANT - Due to recent changes in health and safety guidance, children must not wear any form of earrings during PE lessons. If your child cannot take their earrings out independently, they must not wear them on PE days.**

Finally, please note that clubs will be resuming as normal from week beginning 10th January. Parents' Evening will take place on Wednesday 2nd March and Thursday 3rd March. We will issue more details about this nearer the time.



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By working together we can ensure that your children approach new challenges with confidence and achieve success. Your continued interest and support is greatly appreciated and vastly contributes to the fantastic progress that the children are making this year.

Kind regards,

Miss Humphrey



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