

Year 3 Newsletter

Spring Term 2 - 2023

Topic

Our topic this half term is 'Island Life'. In this Geography based topic, Year 3 will learn all about the Island of Crete and compare the geographical similarities and differences between Island and Teesside (including Marske).

Children will have the opportunity to explore and analyse the population, migration and tourism and how this can affect the topography of the coast. They will also explore and compare different types of settlement- hamlet, village, town, city.

Reading and Homework

Children will have plentiful reading opportunities during English, Guided Reading and Reading Plus sessions. For home-readers, children are given 'Accelerated Reading Levels' that allow them to choose from a range of books, suitable for their reading age and ability. Year 3 pupils can choose their own books and change them when required. We would ask that you to support school at home, reading at least 3-4 times a week with your child and ensuring they complete their weekly homework. They will be bringing homework home each Friday and it is to be handed in by Wednesday the following week. This will be supplemented by the termly spelling sheet.



R.E.

This term your child will return to the faith of Christianity and explore the concepts of Passover, Crucifixion and Resurrection. We will look at the final days of Jesus' life, his betrayal from Judas his disciple, the last supper and the Bible telling's of Jesus' crucifixion.

Children will have opportunity to reflect on how this significant event changed Christianity, the significance of Jesus' giving his life and what it means for Christians today. Children will make connections with the crucifixion and resurrection with Easter Friday and Sunday.

PSHE

This term our PSHE focus is: Healthy Me. Year 3 will explore the following themes: Exercise, Fitness Challenges, Food Labelling and Healthy Swaps, Attitudes towards Drugs, Keeping Safe and it's importance Online and Offline, Respect for myself and Others and Making Healthy and Safe choices for my body.

Enriched Curriculum

In Art children will have opportunity to develop their own interpretations of Sunrise / Sunset sceneries from the Island of Crete. Children will analyse terminology and consider using the correct colour, tones, tints and shades. In Computing children will set up a graphs with a given number of fields, enter data for a graph, produce and share graphs.

Maths

This half term will be focusing on developing our Measuring skills, looking at measuring length, width and the perimeter of shapes and objects. Working with millimetres, centimetres and metres we will learn to convert units of measure and identify equivalent amounts. We will use our knowledge to add and subtract lengths. Following this, we will begin to look at fractions, where children will learn to recognise, read and write fractions. Add and subtract fractions with the same denominator within one whole. They will compare, and order fractions and be to work with equivalent fractions.

English

As our topic this term is Island Life; we will be focusing on the story 'Maria's Island' by Victoria Hislop. A moving story set in the Island of Crete. The story will introduce us to Maria Petrakis, who tells us tales from the village of Plaka and Spinalonga and how her family was separated due to the misunderstood disease of leprosy. It will explore themes of stigma, shame and treatment of those who are different.

Science

This term children will explore the concept of Plants. Children will study the basic anatomy of a flowering plant, including the more complex reproduction parts. Leading to the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal. Following this, Year 3 will identify the basic needs of plants (air, light, water, nutrients from soil and room to grow) and the functions of the different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem / trunk, leaves and flowers. Finally, they will investigate the way in which water is transported within plants.

After this, children will begin to look at Animals Including Humans, whereby they will explore healthy balanced diets, eat-well plates and food pyramids. We will then look at human anatomy, learning about the skeletal system in animals and humans, identifying bone names, structure and function.

P.E.

This term, Year 3 will have P.E. on a Tuesday. Your child needs to come to school in their P.E kit and wear suitable trainers on this day.



Easter Play Rehearsals

This term Year 3 and 4 will be taking part in an Easter Play to perform for the school and parents. As such, children will be partaking in lots of rehearsal sessions, practicing songs, reading and understanding the script, familiarising speaking parts. This will link into our R.E. concepts taught this term.