



Curriculum Overview for Year 3

Religious Education
The 'Come and See' programme responds to the needs of today's children in their faith journey. Through each topic, children grow in their religious literacy and understanding. The themes are divided amongst three seasons: Autumn, Spring and Summer. The autumn season explores Life – God the Creator through the topics: Family, Baptism, Confirmation and Advent/Christmas. The spring season explores dignity – the Incarnation of God, the Saviour, through the topics: Community, Eucharist, Lent/Easter. The summer season explores the purpose of redemption and the work of the Holy Spirit through the topics: Pentecost, Reconciliation and the Universal Church. Children also study Judaism focussing on places of worship.
Mathematics
The focus in Year 3 is the continued development of the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) so that the children can carry out calculations mentally and using written methods. We may be using different methods from the ones you learned at school. Children learn their 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 times tables and increase their speed of recall. Children also learn: 2D and 3D shape and the names of common shapes and their properties; units of measurement for length, weight, capacity and time; right angles as well as obtuse and acute angles; simple fractions and the addition and subtraction of simple fractions; statistics: children learn how to collect data and present their information using bar charts, tally charts, pictograms and Venn diagrams. Children are also taught strategies for solving word problems.
English
During this year, children are encouraged to become more independent in their reading. The majority of children will be confident at decoding most words, although support will continue for those who need further consolidation. Children will develop and extend their comprehension skills. They will begin to meet a wider range of writing contexts, both fiction and non-fiction styles and genres and the children will continue to build on the work from Year 2 developing their spelling skills and their grammatical understanding. Children's written work will be extended to include strategies authors use to create interesting texts. This work will also focus on sentence structure, using the grammar and spelling taught.
Science
Throughout the year, children study the topics 'Animals including Humans', Rocks, Forces and Magnets, Plants and Light. Within these topics they learn: how to set up simple fair tests; collect and present data from scientific experiments; use results from experiments to draw simple conclusions and suggest ways to improve their experiment. They become more confident using scientific vocabulary to explain what they know and what they have learned. Children learn about some famous scientists and how they have contributed to everyday life.
Computing
During the year, children build upon their skills from Year 2. The topics they cover are designed to introduce them to a wider range of programs and to enable them to become increasingly ICT literate. Children are taught how to keep themselves safe online through the topic 'e-safety'; the steps for creating code; how to collect and present data using an appropriate program; how to use Microsoft Word and about the impact of technology on everyday life.
Design & Technology
Children are taught the steps needed to create a design. They are taught about different materials and equipment within the context of the topic 'Making Models'. Children find out about famous sculptors and designers and how they have contributed to towns and cities. Children also begin working with textiles and look at how to join different materials. They continue to build upon their knowledge of healthy eating through the cookery scheme which teaches children about safety in the kitchen and the basic techniques for preparing food based on a balanced diet.
Art & Design
Throughout the year, children develop their spatial awareness and attention to detail. They are taught drawing and painting techniques and develop their knowledge of line and colour. Topics include 'Portraying Relationships' and 'Investigating Pattern'. Where possible these topics are linked to other curriculum areas. Children learn about some famous artists and the techniques they have used to produce exciting art and design.
Physical Education
Children will be taught how to play competitive games whilst communicating and competing with others. They will learn throwing and catching in combination and isolation and take part in indoor and outdoor adventure including team and individual challenges. Flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance will be developed in athletic activities and a range of movement patterns in dance will be developed leading to performance dances.
Music
Children cover a range of musical styles from 'Reggae', 'Christmas Songs', 'Rhythm and Blues' and 'Performance Songs' to develop their knowledge of pitch, timbre, rhythm, texture and tempo. Children learn breathing and warm up techniques to improve their singing and become more aware of timing. They are introduced to simple melodies and taught how to compose their own melody.
Geography
Children's knowledge of human and physical land features is further developed through the topics 'The Mediterranean' and 'Volcanoes, Earthquakes and Tsunamis'. Children learn about some of the different climates within the world and how this affects lifestyle. They are taught about the causes of extreme weather and how this changes the landscape. Children develop their map skills and learn some of the basic signs and symbols of maps.
History
Through our history topics, children become more aware of chronology and the different periods over time that have shaped the world. Through the topic The Stone Age, children learn about the natural materials humans used to hunt and build. Children also learn about Ancient Greece, again looking at lifestyle and inventions and how these contributed to the world we know now. They begin to understand how we find out about the past using different historical evidence and how



evidence can be interpreted in different ways.

Spanish

Children are introduced to a modern foreign language for the first time. The focus is on learning pronunciation and building knowledge of basic words. Children are then taught how to construct simple sentences. They are also introduced to the Spanish culture and special events and celebrations throughout the Spanish calendar.