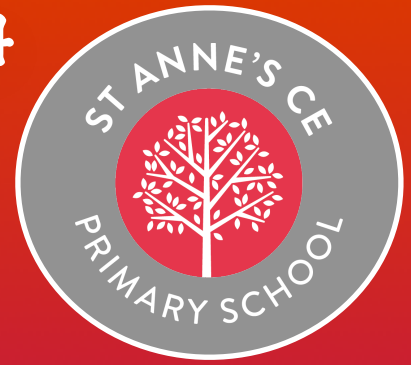


CURRICULUM OVERVIEW - SPRING 2024

YEAR 3



HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Welcome back to the new Spring Term in Year 3. I hope that you have all had a fantastic Christmas and had a chance to relax and enjoy the time with friends and family. This term, we have lots of exciting and varied activities that will engage and inspire the children. If you ever have any questions please feel free to make an appointment and come in for a chat or alternatively, you can private message me on Class Dojo.



ENGLISH

The children will be exploring instructional texts and traditional stories, including those from other cultures. Through the use of engaging and interesting stimuli throughout the units, and quality texts and images, they will be inspired to experiment with generating rich vocabulary and language as well as gaining an understanding of recommended structure to their writing.

During the term, the children have the opportunity to study a range of reading comprehension, sentence, grammar, word and written work. The units will continue to have Big Writing sessions, where all the skills gained over the previous weeks will be put to use in a final piece of independent writing.

During Read Write Inc spelling sessions your child will continue to learn common prefixes and suffixes. The sessions will include spellings to be learnt at home for each unit.

Handwriting and presentation will continue to be a focus during Year 3 across all areas of learning. Perfecting

their handwriting will help with the children's fluency and speed of writing so that they can focus on the task given and maybe earn a pen licence!

Separate to the English lessons, the children will also be taught reading skills through guided reading sessions. Each group will receive one direct guided reading session per week and will complete a range of other tasks during the other weekly guided reading times.

It is extremely important that your child reads regularly at home, at least 3 times weekly, to progress their understanding of texts and word recognition. I am hoping that the 'free readers' books from our class library will allow the children to find where their interests lie, whether it be fantasy stories, adventures, animal stories, non-fiction texts or other genres.

MATHS:

The children will further develop their understanding of multiples of 10 by looking at greater multiples. They will discuss that multiples of 10 end in a zero and use this fact to solve

basic multiplication and division problems beyond the 10 times-table. Understanding multiples of 10 is crucial for the next step, when children explore multiplying by 20, 30 and so on.

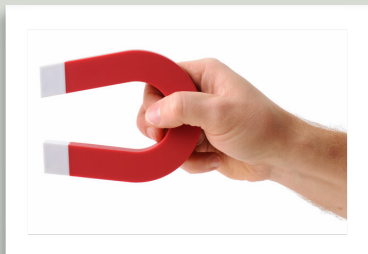
In our next Maths unit, the children will revise measuring using metres and centimetres, using a ruler to measure objects in centimetres. They will then combine units of measurement, such as 1m and 20 cm, for example by measuring the lengths of desks or the heights of children in the class using different measuring equipment.

Our Maths learning will follow on by exploring unit fractions. The children will understand that a fraction can be seen as part of a whole and that to find a unit fraction, they divide the whole into equal parts.

For the final Maths unit of the Spring Term the children will be exploring mass in kilograms and grams before moving on to capacity.

THEMES:

The children will have the opportunity to study two varied and exciting themes during the Spring Term: **Feel the Force** and **Precious Plants**



FEEL THE FORCE:

Our first theme of the Spring Term will allow the children to explore forces through our **Science** lessons. We will learn that a force is generally a 'push' or a 'pull' and that when an object moves on a surface, the texture of the surface and the object affect how it moves. The children will move on to investigate and draw conclusions about magnets and explore which materials are magnetic or non-magnetic, as well as magnetic poles, and be able to predict whether magnets will attract or repel each other.

For our **Geography** focus *Climate and Weather*, the children are introduced to different ways of communicating geographical data, particularly through different styles of maps. They will learn to read weather and climate maps, and learn how weather and climate are generalised into world climate zones. The concept of biomes will be explored, each with distinctive climate, soil, flora, fauna and human activity.

In our **Art** lessons, the children will explore the elements of art, in particular, shape and tone. We will use shapes as guidelines to draw

accurately from observation and will use wire to create forms.

PRECIOUS PLANTS:

This theme will allow us to investigate our local area with mainly a **Science** and **Geography** focus.

In **Science**, we will investigate flowering plants and look at the reproduction, pollination and germination of these. The children will also investigate the life cycle of plants and carry out several experiments, including growing our own plants from seeds and dyeing and dissecting a flower.

Throughout our **Geography** theme, *Changes in our Local Environment*, the children will find out about the regions of the UK, discovering how some of these areas have changed over time.

During **Art** lessons, we will focus on what it's like to be an artist. We will be inspired by the art of Georgia O'Keefe and Chinese painters and will draw and paint natural forms using different mediums, scale and shading.



PE:

The children will begin with Gymnastics and Fitness in the first half term and Swimming and Cricket in the second.

In Gymnastics, children will develop balance and control before perfecting a forward roll and creating sequences of movement

with a partner. Fitness lessons will help children to improve their own fitness, stamina and perseverance.

COMPUTING:

In Computing we will be fine-tuning our computer skills of communicating via email. The children will learn how to attach and send documents via email. The children will also use computing skills in a range of other subjects including word processing and internet research.

PSHE

In PSHE we will be focusing on the children's dreams and goals. The children will consider how to face difficult challenges and become motivated to achieve success. We will then move on to looking at all of the factors that contribute to being healthy such as exercise, eating healthily, keeping safe online and enabling them to make healthy and safe choices.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

In RE this term we will be investigating two key questions. The first: *Life Journeys - How do Hindus show that they belong to their faith?* Later in the term, we will be exploring Easter and in particular asking - *What was 'good' about Good Friday?*

MUSIC:

Our first unit of music lessons this term will explore using instruments and our voices to create a composition with the theme of the *Environment*. Following this, we will use the theme of *Buildings* to investigate the beat in music.

FEEL THE FORCE

Our first theme of the Spring Term will allow the children to explore forces through our Science lessons. We will also be investigating Climate during our Geography Lessons and Sculpture in Art and Design. Here are some optional tasks for you to complete up to the February Half-Term. They are all related to our current theme. You can complete as many or as few as you'd like.



SCIENCE

Your challenge is to find ten examples of forces in action around your home e.g. pulling the curtains. Design a poster, power point or diagram to present your forces.

MATHS -D&T

Design a maths game for 7 years olds complete with instructions, procedures etc using magnets. Your game must include either addition, subtraction, multiplication or division or a mixture of these.

ART

Use your learning from our art lessons to create your own 3D Sculpture garden ornament. Decide which materials you will use. Will it be sculpted, carved or made from recycled materials. Bring it in to show us

SCIENCE

Make your own compass with a sewing needle, cork and a magnet. Search Youtube for ideas of how to do it. Make sure you bring it in to show us. (Ask if you need a magnet!)



Research the history of magnets. Write a non-chronological report about the history of magnets. Include illustrations, headings, sub-headings, timelines etc.

GEOGRAPHY

The Thames freezes over!

Research what happened during the 'mini ice age' or 'little ice age' when the river Thames froze over. Use, who, what, where, when, why and how questions. Illustrate your work.

PRECIOUS PLANTS

During Spring Term 2, This theme will allow us to investigate our local area with mainly a Science, Geography and Art focus. Here are some optional Home learning tasks which will support and extend your learning for after the Half-Term

SCIENCE

Research and find out about what seed dispersal is. Create a poster, picture, model or information text to demonstrate the different types of seed dispersal.

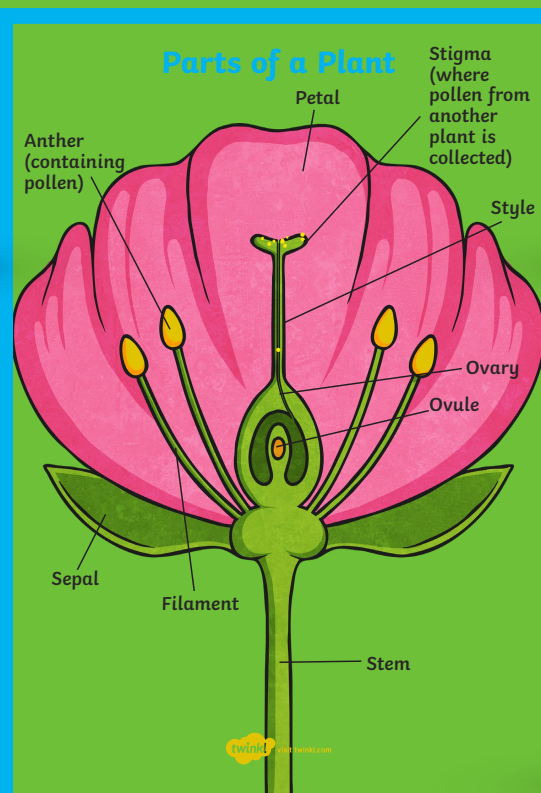
Draw a labelled diagram of a plant life cycle. You can use pictures or clearly drawn diagrams. Describe it.

ART

Use the skills learnt in your art lessons to draw your own botanical drawing of a plant or flower using shading. Use the 4 rules of shading! Shading in one direction, Creating smooth, neat, even tones, Leaving no gaps, Ensuring neat edges when filling a shape.

GEOGRAPHY

Choose a place in Grantham that you like visiting such as Wyndham Park or the street that you live on. Research, using the internet or books and answer these questions. How has it changed over time? What has caused these changes? Has it changed for the worse or better? Record in your own way.



SCIENCE

Take the time to care for a seedling plant or plant some seeds. Keep a diary over the term to follow its growing progress. Measure it regularly and keep sketches or photographs of how it changes.

SCIENCE

Find out which plants we can grow in this country to eat. Make a list. Which part of the plant do we eat? e.g. fruit, root, leaves. Draw a table including pictures with labels under the heading - name of plants, parts of plants we can eat.

ART

MATHS -DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Create a 3D model of a plant or flower. Make sure it includes all of the main parts. Label the parts of your plant/ flower.



Diary Dates

- Whole School Open Morning - Tues 30th Jan 9-10.30am
- Break the Rules Day - Fri 2nd Feb
- Y3/4 Swim: Wednesdays - 21st Feb - 10th July
- Safer Internet Day - Tues 6th Feb
- Parent Celebration Assembly - 10th Feb
- Half Term - 12th -17th Feb
- Science Week
- Parents' Evenings: Tues 19th and Wed 20th March 3.30-6.30pm
- Book Fair - Wed 6th - Tues 12th March
- World Book Day: Thurs 7th March
- Comic Relief: 15th March
- Parents Celebration Assembly - Fri 15th March
- Easter Service: Tues 26th March - 1.30pm
- End of term: Thurs 28th March



Additional Information

Homework will continue with the new optional theme homework tasks alongside the expected Reading, Spelling and Maths tasks. RWI and weekly spellings will be set on Tuesdays and are tested the following Monday. Children should attempt to make time to read their reading books at least three times a week, and complete 10 sessions of TTRockstars. This is invaluable and allows the children to make rapid progress. In addition to this, children should spend ten minutes weekly using the IXL website to answer English and Maths questions.

Anything Else?

Swimming begins after the Half Term break. If you have not been to the Meres before, it would be really helpful if you could take the

time to visit with your child before we start to avoid any anxiety. A swimming hat is required for lessons and goggles if your child chooses to wear them (many do!) Boys should have tight fitted lycra shorts, no bermuda style and no bikini style costumes for girls. Also ear-rings are forbidden in the pool.

We are really looking forward to a fun and exciting start to the new year.

Mrs L Hedley- Year 3 Teacher
Mrs K. Knight - Teaching Assistant
Mrs Handforth - Teaching Assistant
Mrs Peters - Teaching Assistant



Read Write Inc.
Spelling

