



Year 3 Autumn News

2015

Dear Parents/Guardians

My name is Miss Ryan and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new class teacher! I am very much looking forward to working with the children and I know Ms Croarken is too. It is a pleasure to be joining Year 3 and Ms Croarken and I have lots of exciting activities planned. We can't wait to get started and get to know all the children and of course the parents.

Expectations of year 3

We have high expectations for all of the children in Year 3.

- We expect their work and behaviour to be of the highest standard.
- We expect all work to be neatly presented.
- We expect all children to respect the Catholic ethos of the school.
- We expect all children to have the correct school uniform, including correct footwear, which is to be labelled. Now that they are juniors we expect your child to have a proper tie.
- Children are to have both indoor and outdoor P.E kits which should be left in school or brought in on the correct days. Year 3 will have P.E on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Homework

Your child will be set numeracy and literacy homework weekly. However, when necessary, this will be replaced with other subject areas. The homework will be given out on Friday and is due in on Wednesday unless otherwise stated.

Children should be reading every day at home and practising their times tables on a daily basis as they will be tested weekly. Times tables are essential to developing their numeracy, rapid recall of their times tables will enable them to access the numeracy curriculum with more ease.

Children will receive spellings on a Friday and will be tested the following Friday.

The standard of homework expected is to be the same quality as their classwork. Parents are encouraged to support children their homework but please do not do it for them. If your child is struggling they can come and see Ms Croarken or myself on Monday.

Reading

It is the school's requirement that your child spend at least 15 minutes reading every day at home. Please try to hear your child read as often as possible to develop their speaking and listening skills. We will try to hear every child read at least once a week. Reading is essential to many areas of the curriculum.

Please ensure the reading record is being filled in and signed by an adult. The reading record and their reading book must be brought in daily and will be signed by myself or Ms Croarken weekly.

What will Year 3 be learning this term?

RE

We have a busy year in Year 3 because we make two sacraments! Although we make them in the Spring and Summer terms we will begin to prepare for these important events during this term. During the first half term we will be studying the unit 'Belonging' before moving on to the unit 'Reconciliation' and then finish up the term with the unit 'Advent'.

Throughout the term we will also begin to prepare for our first confession and first Holy Communion. These preparations will be in class as well as through the sacramental meetings at the Parish Church. The children will also have the opportunity to attend and read at school and class masses throughout the year as well as leading class prayer time.

Literacy

During the first half term we will be basing our writing and comprehension skills around the book James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl. Through using the class text we will be exploring characterisation, non-chronological reports and newspaper articles. We will also be comparing the book and the film. The children will also be having weekly grammar and handwriting practice.

Numeracy

The class will cover a range of mathematical skills outlined in the new national curriculum- number, place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions, measurements, geometry, statistics and using and applying mathematical reasoning. Weekly maths lessons as well as daily times table practise will also be delivered.

Science

This half term we will be studying the unit of work 'Rocks'. During this unit children will discover the different types of rocks and how they are formed. Children will compare and group rocks based on appearance and simple properties. They will learn how fossils are formed and learn about the contribution of Mary Anning to the field of palaeontology.

Geography

During the first half term Year 3 will be studying different countries and developing our map work. We will be using atlases and maps to locate and identify different continents throughout the world and comparing different places.

Art/ D&T

This half term we will be developing our sketching and drawing skills. We will be focussing on drawing still life. We will be using different media to attempt to make our own 'Giant Peach' analysing and experimenting with different materials.

P.E

This half-term Year 3 will be working on their handball and orienteering skills. P.E is on **Monday and Wednesday**. Children must have hair tied back and all jewellery removed. Children must wear the correct P.E uniform.

Please keep up to date using our class blog and webpage! Here you can find out what Year 3 have been learning each week and see what we have been up to in class!

Dates for your diary

Sacramental preparation meetings in the parish room

Monday 28th September Monday 11th January 2016

Monday 19th October Monday 8th February

Monday 9th November Monday 7th March

Monday 30th November

Monday 21st March- Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday 18th March- Celebration of Mass

Saturday 7th- Sunday 8th May- First Holy Communion.

We look forward to the term ahead and hope we can work together to encourage all children to aim high, believe in their abilities and be proud of their achievements.

Kind regards

Miss Ryan and Ms Croarken