



# Year 3 Spring News 2016



Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back to the spring term! I hope everybody had an enjoyable break. The children have come back into school ready to go and are very engaged with the new units of work we are looking at this term. We have lots of exciting work ahead of us and I am sure the children will enjoy it, I know I am looking forward to teaching everything. Outlined below is the work we are going to be focussing on this term, if you have any questions my door is always open.

## Expectations of year 3

The children in Year 3, as in all classes, are expected to do their best in everything they do. High expectations of behaviour and work are necessary in order to help each child achieve their full potential.

- 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 with 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 other 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. It is clearly evident in the classroom which children read regularly at home as they cope much better when applying these skills across 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 will be busy this term preparing to make our sacrament of Reconciliation and our First Holy Communion. During the first half term we will be studying the unit 'Christmas' before moving on to the unit 'We listen to God's word at mass' next we will be looking at 'Lent'. Next half term we will be looking at the unit 'Prayer' before revisiting 'Reconciliation' in preparation for this sacrament. Throughout the term we will also prepare for our 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

This term we are looking at J.M Barrie's Peter Pan as we study a classic text. The children's learning will be supported by our trip to see Wendy and Peter at the RSC. We will be looking at fantasy settings and creating our own versions of Neverland. We will also be using Peter Pan to help us to make our own playscripts. 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. We have started a 'tables club' where the children have to answer a set amount of questions in a certain time in order to move up to the next level.

### Science

This half term we will be studying the unit of work Animals including humans. We will find out about food groups and healthy balanced diets. We will also study the digestive system and look at how food is transported around the body. The children will also learn about different skeletons and joints and examine the effects of exercise.

### Geography

During the first half term Year 3 will be studying different climate zones. We will be comparing different countries and areas in the world and seeing how the different climate can affect these countries. We will also be identifying our climate and comparing it to different climate areas in the world.

### Art/ D&T

This half term we will be developing our colour and painting skills. We will be focussing on the work of Henri Matisse. We are going to create our own map of Neverland and create different images of the characters from Peter Pan.

### P.E

This half-term Year 3 will be working on their gymnastics and dodgeball 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

Our class trip to see Wendy and Peter at RSC is on **13<sup>th</sup> January 2016**. We will be leaving school at **12:00pm** to arrive for the 1:15pm performance. **The children will be having an early lunch at school at 11:30am so no packed lunches are required if you usually have a hot dinner**. We will arrive back at school by **5pm**. The children can be collected from the hall where Ms Croarken and myself will be waiting with them. We would like the children to wear their outdoor P.E kits to school tomorrow so that they will be comfortable during the performance. (Book bags are not needed in school on Wednesday).

### Sacramental preparation meetings in the parish room

The children have enjoyed attending these meetings and we hope that this term everybody can attend them as they are essential to prepare the children for their sacraments.

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March- Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April- Celebration of Mass

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May- First Holy Communion.

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January Mass of Commitment at 9:30 am for all those making their First Holy Communion this year. All children intending to make their sacraments must attend. We invite all Year 3 children to attend this mass to support their friends.**

Years 3 and 4 will be performing an Easter reflection of Holy week to help us to think about the important events of this special time and reflect on everything Jesus did for us. There will be two performances on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March** one in the afternoon and one in the evening. Parents are welcome to join us for this reflection.

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