

St Winefride's Primary School – Year 3 Autumn Term 2016 Overview

Theme- There's No Place Like Home

In Geography this term our focus will be on learning how maps work, starting at the global scale and eventually ending up with our local area. We will be creating our own maps of St Winefride's and Shepshed after learning about scale and direction.

In History we will be focusing on the history of Shepshed and Charnwood. We will look at the history of our school and community from its creation through to what the future may bring for our local area.

There will be opportunities for field work in this topic and group and partner work is to be encouraged.

ICT

The children will continue to use the internet to practise safe research skills and to support the curriculum. We will also be looking at using images, video and animation across different programs.

English

This term the children will be enjoying linking their English work to Folk Tales. The history and purpose of this form of narrative will be explored and children will be exposed to plenty of examples before creating their own Folk Tales. They will be developing their speaking and listening skills and focussing on the spelling and grammar requirements of the New Curriculum.

By improving their reading, writing and communication skills, the children will have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, spiritually and socially.

RE

In RE this term we will be focussing on God's vision for every family, looking at how the lessons from the Bible can help us and guide us in the relationships to those who are closest to us.

We will then move on to looking at the promises made during Baptism, before starting to think about advent and the waiting of the coming of Jesus.

Maths

Maths is a creative subject drawing on the skills of reasoning and problem solving.

We aim to provide a mathematics education that is s a foundation for understanding the world, helping children to reason mathematically, and have a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about the subject.

In Year 3 the children will build on their basic understanding of number, developing strategies for written and mental calculation. They will develop their understanding of number, shape and measure, time and money across the term. The children will have access to a range of resources in the classroom to help develop these skills, from simple (but effective) counters to interactive I pads

French

Year 3 will be starting their early French skills. They will be using some simple French songs and rhymes to help establish the fundamental key words and phrases.

Notes for Year 3

PE

Our PE slot is **Monday afternoon** when we will be walking up to Hind Leys pool to start our swimming lessons. Every ability group is catered for, from the complete non-swimmers to the future Michael Phelps! Please make sure that your child comes to school with their complete swimming gear including costume, towel and swimming hat to avoid wet hair in cold weather. There is no charge for the swimming sessions.

Please make sure that your child has their regular PE kit in school at all times during the school week. Please remind your child to bring home their kit for regular cleaning.

Volunteer Appeal

We are looking for parent volunteers who would be willing to accompany our class on our Monday afternoon swimming sessions (1.15-2.30 approx). Any volunteers will of course not be responsible for any swimming coaching. I would like to try to get enough volunteers to create a rota so that people aren't donating too much of their time. Please see me or the school office if you are interested.

Handwriting

At school we use the cursive style of joined up writing that is promoted whenever possible. Please encourage your child to use this style of writing when completing work at home.

Helping your child at home

I am often asked by parents what they can do to help their child at home, and the answer is fairly simple:

- 1) **Reading.** Children should be reading every night. Contrary to popular belief, this does not **always** have to be with an adult, although of course that is preferable. Questioning your child on what they have read is the key to making progress with reading.
- 2) **Times Tables.** By the end of Year 4, all children across the country need to know all of their times tables and division facts to x12. Please test your child whenever possible, making sure that they know the facts out of order rather than just reciting them.

Homework

It is expected that children in Year 3 complete 1.5 hours of homework every week, not including reading and times table practice. This homework will be directly related to the topics that we cover in class. In an average week the work will consist of interactive MyMaths consolidation (although worksheets will be available if required) and written work related to RE, English or our current Theme. This work will be given out on a **Thursday** and must be returned by **Wednesday** morning. I am of course more than happy to assist with any homework-based questions, just as long as they aren't on a Wednesday morning!