



ST.THOMAS OF CANTERBURY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

January 2021,

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all. This term and next term in Year 3 we will be studying the following topics: -

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| Focused Topic Work | We will continue to foster a creative curriculum approach to our learning. Firstly, we will complete our topic about The Savage Stone Age before commencing the following Topics over the next two terms. For the first two terms our focus will be on science and will encapsulate, Art, Design and Technology and Computing. |
| Extreme Earth | We will introduce the three different types of rocks: sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic. We will learn the difference between natural and man-made rocks. We will be designing our own scientific investigations exploring the permeability of rocks. We will be finding out about the life and times of Mary Anning (The Fossil Lady) and discovering how fossils are formed. We will be learning about the earth's structure and its layers. We will be learning about volcanoes and earthquakes and extreme weather such as tornadoes and tsunamis. |
| Forces and Magnets | Next term we will learn about forces, friction, and magnetic attraction. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate friction, by exploring the movement of a toy car over different surfaces. They will work in a hands-on way to identify magnetic materials and they will conduct an investigation into the strength of different types of magnets. The children will have a chance to explore the way magnetic poles can attract and repel in an exciting activity, making their own compass and using it to find hidden items. They will also develop their scientific enquiry skills, making observations, predictions, and conclusions. |
| P.E. GAMES DANCE | Every Tuesday the children will take part in outdoor games. Please remember to provide your child with the appropriate kit for outdoor games. They will need to be prepared for the colder weather (track suit/ jumper) and are allowed trainers/ football boots. We will be learning the Dance of the Earth by Stravinsky and The Planets by Holst. In each Dance session the children will learn to use improvisation; design their own dance moves; link and combine movements; perform with expression; respond to different stimuli and create and perform a dance phrase applying their newly developed skills. |



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| Maths | <p>This term we will continue to practise formal methods for multiplication and division and recap the use of Money in terms of addition, subtraction, converting pounds to pence and giving change. We will also be looking at statistics where the children will draw and interpret tally charts, Bar charts and Pictograms We will continue to have a weekly times tables test, every Thursday. However, so far, the children have learnt a single times table each week. This term this will change to a mixed times tables test each Thursday, meaning that all times tables 1-12 will be tested, a total of 25 questions will be asked. Please ensure your child learns their 2's, 5's 10's 3' 4's and 8 times tables first and then progress to the others. Also, please ensure your child continues to practise their times tables at home and makes use of the Times Tables Rocks Stars game online. Next term we will learn all about Measurement in terms of length and perimeter. We will measure in millimetres, centimetres, and metres, compare lengths and measure perimeters too. Finally, we will recap fractions in terms of recognition of halves, quarters, thirds, finding equivalents and counting in fractions too.</p> |
| English | <p>This term we will be studying books related to our topic Extreme Earth. Firstly, <i>The Pebble in My Pocket by Meredith Hooper</i>, a non-fiction book which tells the story of a pebble from its origins in a fiery volcano 480 million years ago to a busy, modern landscape. Next, we will read the Stone <i>Girl Bone Girl by Laurence Anholt and Fossil girl by Catherine Brighton</i> which outlines the life and times of Mary Anning, known as 'The Fossil Lady'. We will use the books as a stimulus to write reports, stories and diary accounts. Next term we will study the book <i>Meercat Mail by Emily Gravett</i> as a stimulus for letter writing and we will continue to complete weekly comprehensions. Therefore, please continue to read with your child daily to help them to further develop their reading and comprehension skills. More importantly continue to share a bedtime story with them which will foster a love of books, as reading is a gift that you give to your children because in a world full of media gadgets there is no 'App to replace your lap'.</p> |

Homework books will be sent home every Thursday and must be returned by the following Monday.

Number bonds and Times tables tests will take place every Thursday and spelling tests will take place every Monday. P.E is on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Kind Regards

Mrs Hurrell



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