



# St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

## Curriculum Information

Year 3 Autumn Term 2019

Subject	What are we doing in school?	How can you help at home?
<b>Topic</b>	<p><b>“Rainforests”</b></p> <p>Our first topic in Year 3 will be all about Rainforests. In our Geography lessons, the children will be learning about the different layers of the rainforest, where rainforests are located around the world, typical climates of a rainforest and all about the indigenous people who live there. We will also be looking at the different human features that appear in rainforests, such as Machu Picchu as well as the effects of deforestation.</p> <p>Keeping with this theme, our Art and D&amp;T lessons will include sketching portraits of rainforest animals, creating tribal necklaces and completing a chocolate bar design project whereby the children will not only design their own wrappers but create their very own chocolate bars too!</p>	<p>Here are some websites to help with this term's learning:</p> <p><a href="https://kids.mongabay.com/">https://kids.mongabay.com/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/geography/physical-geography/15-cool-things-about-rainforests/">https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/geography/physical-geography/15-cool-things-about-rainforests/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.activewild.com/rainforest-facts-for-kids/">https://www.activewild.com/rainforest-facts-for-kids/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zxdsvcw">https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zxdsvcw</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.cadbury.co.uk/">https://www.cadbury.co.uk/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.godivachocolates.co.uk/the-history-of-chocolate-mayans-aztecs.html">https://www.godivachocolates.co.uk/the-history-of-chocolate-mayans-aztecs.html</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/rainforest.html">http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/rainforest.html</a></p>
<b>Maths</b>	<p>In Maths, the children will continue to work with the familiar model of 'Practise, Apply and Enrich'; a method which follows the mastery approach to Maths giving the children the opportunity to practise the fluency of a particular skill, apply their understanding to a reasoning problem and enrich their knowledge by solving a problem using the skill they practised.</p>	<p>Attend our Maths Curriculum Evening in school on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October to see examples of and hear explanations about our approach to Maths using the Practise, Apply, Enrich model. Teachers from across the school will also be demonstrating our calculation policy; showing how we teach the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and explaining how you can best support your child at home.</p>



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	<p>The first half of this term will focus principally on <b>Number and Place Value</b>. The children will start by learning to identify the place value of 3 digit numbers, as well as learning to order and compare them. By half term, the children will be able to read and write numbers up to 1000, and find 10 and 100 more and less of a number.</p> <p>After this focus, the children will learn about <b>mental addition and subtraction</b>. We will continue to use place value to support us with this. This will then progress on to using the <b>written methods of addition and subtraction</b>.</p> <p>After half term, we will learn about <b>fractions</b>. We will start by counting up and down in tenths. This will then lead on to finding fractions of different numbers and objects. We will also learn to add and subtract fractions with the same denominator and identify equivalent fractions.</p> <p>In Year 3, we will be focusing on teaching the children their 3s, 4s and 8s times tables. The children will be tested once a week and we appreciate your support in helping them to learn them.</p>	<p>Topmarks is a brilliant website that the children can use to practise all different aspects of maths.</p> <p><a href="https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years">https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years</a></p> <p>Snappy Maths can also be used to find worksheets to practise the skills we are learning in class.</p> <p><a href="http://www.snappymaths.com/">http://www.snappymaths.com/</a></p> <p>Each child has their own log in for Times Tables Rockstars which is a fantastic resource that the children really enjoy using. This will help them become fluent when answering questions relating to their tables.</p> <p><a href="https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school">https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school</a></p> <p>The following websites may also support your child's learning in Maths:</p> <p><a href="http://www.abcya.com/base_ten.htm">http://www.abcya.com/base_ten.htm</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html">http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/maths/">http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/maths/</a></p>
<b>Science</b>	<b>"Plants"</b> In our first Science topic, we will be learning all about plants. We will start by identifying the different parts of the plant, and explaining what	Please encourage the children to talk to you about their learning – particularly different plants that they come across. The Autumn Term is a great opportunity to explore



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	<p>they do. We will do experiments on plants to learn about how water moves through a plant, as well as experiments to find out what happens to plants without air, water, leaves, or room to grow. In addition to this, we will examine the lifecycle of plants, investigating pollination, seed dispersal and seed formation.</p> <p><b>Animals, including humans</b></p> <p>In the second Science topic this term, we will be learning about the skeletons of humans and other animals. We will learn and investigate the reasons we have a skeleton, and examine how our muscles work. We will also learn about the different food groups and how they help give us the right nutrition.</p> <p>As part of our Science, we expect the children to use their Maths skills to support their evaluations and therefore, the children will also be completing graphs and keys as part of their investigations.</p>	<p>seed dispersal so encourage them to keep their eyes open for different seeds and seed pods.</p> <p><a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/living_things/plants/read/1/">http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/living_things/plants/read/1/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zy66fg8">http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zy66fg8</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Interactive.aspx?cat=71">https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Interactive.aspx?cat=71</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/z9339j6">http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/z9339j6</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/nutritionforkids/games/foodgroupsgame.html">http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/nutritionforkids/games/foodgroupsgame.html</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/science/index.html">http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/science/index.html</a></p>
<b>Reading</b>	<p>We love reading! Children read in class every day. They read in a variety of ways including whole class, small group and individual reading.</p> <p>The children participate in regular VIPERS lessons, where a rich text is selected and the children focus on the skills of Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval and Summarising; they also practise their speed reading in this rotation. In</p>	<p>We hope you will support us in listening to children read at home <b><u>a minimum of three times a week.</u></b></p> <p>Your comments are a valuable contribution to the reading record so once you have read together with your child please record your experience which helps us to know when to change books.</p>



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	<p>addition to this, the children also have one lesson a week dedicated to Comprehension skills.</p> <p>The school has recently invested in a huge number of new reading books as part of the Accelerated Reader scheme, which will accurately inform teachers of each child's progress in reading. We will share more information with you about AR in due course.</p>	<p>Please remember that children can read other texts to support their learning, e.g. newspapers, magazines, comics. In Key Stage Two, it is vital that the children can not only read the words of a text, but also understand the overall meaning and purpose of what they are reading.</p> <p>Some questions you can ask are as follows:            Can your child find synonyms for specific words in the text?            Can they explain the characters' feelings and give reasons for their thoughts? What do they think might happen next?            Can they find evidence from the text that supports their thinking? In one sentence/25 words etc. can they give you a brief summary of what they have just read? How quickly can they read a passage of 100 words accurately?</p> <p>We focus on vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval skills, the ability to summarise a text and speed reading.</p>
<p><b>Literacy</b></p>	<p>We will be having a strong focus on Spelling Punctuation and Grammar to improve your child's writing as much as possible. We aim to give children a variety of opportunities to practise their existing SPAG knowledge and learn new SPAG skills.</p> <p>As with their Maths, the children will have a daily SPAG starter, which will consolidate the skills they have been learning and will support them with applying the skills to their independent writing.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar">http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.roythezebra.com/">https://www.roythezebra.com/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2literacy.html">http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2literacy.html</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/literacy/">http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/literacy/</a></p>



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	<p>During this time, the children will learn how to use the present perfect tense in their writing, headings and subheadings to aid presentation and use conjunctions in their work.</p> <p>This term, we will be covering a variety of text types including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Setting descriptions</li><li>• Narrative – adventure stories</li><li>• Non-fiction – recounts, information texts and instructions</li></ul> <p>Our Literacy lessons will be linked, where possible, to our topic on Rainforests.</p> <p>At St Gregory's we encourage the children to develop their Literacy skills in all areas and they will therefore be applying their skills to cross curricular writing in RE, Theme and Science.</p>	
<b>Spelling</b>	<p>The children are going to be revisiting some of their common exception words from year 2, and learn prefixes such as; 'pre-' 'dis-' 'mis-' 're-'.</p> <p>Children are then going to be able to apply the prefix to words. E.g. 'disown, disobey, disqualify' - understanding and reasoning that 'dis' is negative.</p> <p>Children are going to be re-visiting homophones.</p> <p>Children will also receive homework once a week.</p>	<p>There are different ways to help remember spellings. Try looking at the word first of all, sounding out the letters and then covering up the word before your child writes it down.</p> <p>Memory recall of all the spellings given.</p> <p>Finding other words with the same pattern.</p> <p>Finding the longest word with this pattern.</p> <p>Drawing the letters and decorating them.</p> <p>Making up rhymes using each word, for example TEAM = Together Every Ant Munches.</p>



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	<p>In class children will have the opportunity to complete a word search to find their spellings, as well practise handwriting using the spellings.</p>	
RE	<p><b>Homes</b> This topic looks at the importance of homes and family in the Bible. We will start by thinking what makes a happy home. This will lead on to examining the Holy Family, and thinking about how they teach and inspire us to be loving.</p> <p><b>Promises</b> This topic will focus on the promises made at Baptism. The children will first learn about what happens at a Baptism, and about the different objects used and what they symbolise.</p> <p><b>Visitors</b> This topic is influenced by our lead up to Christmas, and we will be thinking about the special visitors that appear in the Nativity story. We will also link this to our own experience of visitors.</p>	<p>To help at home, it would be brilliant if you could encourage the children to talk about what experiences they have of the different topics, such as, living in a home, making promises, and what it is like when they have visitors.</p> <p>If your child is making their Holy Communion next year, it would also be worthwhile linking their experiences of their communion classes to what they have learnt at school.</p>
PE	<p>PE is timetabled on Mondays. We will be starting with Tag Rugby this term with a PE Coach.</p> <p>The children will be developing their throwing and catching skills, including how to throw the ball</p>	<p>School PE Kit is a plain white t-shirt, with no branding and plain black, unbranded, shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms. All children will need a pair of trainers or plimsolls. Please remove earrings, jewellery and watches and leave them at home on PE day. Children are required to remove their own earrings because teachers are not authorised to remove them.</p>



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	backwards. They will also continue to work on their team work and invasion skills.	<p>Children should be active for at least 60 minutes per day and it is important they they are eating a balanced diet alongside this. Can your child help plan meals for the week taking into account the need to eat from all food groups? The Change 4 Life website also has some great ideas for activities to keep children active indoors and outdoors to improve their stamina general fitness: <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/activities">https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/activities</a></p> <p>It is important that the children are practising their sports skills regularly; this is supported in school by regular clubs and lunchtime challenges in school.</p>
<b>Music</b>	The children will start by identifying different musical instruments, and thinking about the sounds they make. We will begin to create our own musical score using instruments to replicate the sounds of the rainforest.	It would be brilliant if the children could be encouraged to listen to a range of musical genres at home and discuss the features such as the rhythm, tempo, pitch, dynamics (volume), melody and harmony.
<b>Homework</b>	The children will bring home Learning Conversations each week based on what we have been doing in class. We would be grateful if you would discuss these with your children each weekend. On occasion, there will be a written outcome for this which they will need to bring into school, but this will be stated on the sheet. The children are expected to read at least three times a week and have this recorded in their Reading Record books. They will also be expected to practise their spellings and times tables at home.	