




# St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

## Curriculum Information

Year 3 Autumn Term 2017

Subject	What are we doing in school?	How can you help at home?
<p data-bbox="383 464 472 496">Topic</p> 	<p data-bbox="674 416 1021 443">“The Land of the Rising Sun”</p> <p data-bbox="674 488 1279 839">Our topic this term will be all about Japan. In <b>Geography</b>, we will be using maps to locate Japan in the world, and identify key regions and cities in the country. We will also look at the human and physical features of Japan. This subject will also include learning how to use compass directions to describe locations. In <b>History</b>, we will be developing the children’s chronological understanding as we look at words and phrases related to the passing of time.</p> <p data-bbox="674 847 1279 983">In <b>Art</b>, we will be learning how to make a collage and exploring different materials. They will be putting this into practise by doing a collage of The Great Wave off Kanagawa.</p> <p data-bbox="674 991 1279 1126">In the second half of the term, the children will also have an opportunity to do some <b>Food Technology</b>. We will learn how to prepare and mix ingredients safely to create a Japanese dish.</p>	<p data-bbox="1314 416 1995 443">Here are some websites to help with this term’s learning:</p> <p data-bbox="1314 488 1693 515"><a href="http://web-japan.org/kidsweb/">http://web-japan.org/kidsweb/</a></p> <p data-bbox="1314 560 2027 624"><a href="http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/countries/japan.html">http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/countries/japan.html</a></p> <p data-bbox="1314 668 1939 695"><a href="http://www.3dgeography.co.uk/geography-of-japan">http://www.3dgeography.co.uk/geography-of-japan</a></p> <p data-bbox="1314 740 2011 911">In History, the children will be developing their vocabulary of chronology so it would be really useful if you could try and bring this vocabulary into their everyday lives. Words such as: before, after, a long time ago, ancient, old, new, decade, century, millennium and modern.</p>
<p data-bbox="344 1222 510 1254">Numeracy</p>	<p data-bbox="674 1174 1245 1345">In Numeracy, we are striving to develop our children’s reasoning and fluency skills and are therefore using the “Practise, Apply and Enrich” method which gives the children a chance to deepen their understanding in each lesson.</p>	<p data-bbox="1314 1211 2011 1275">Topmarks is a brilliant website that the children can use to practise all different aspects of maths.</p> <p data-bbox="1314 1283 1910 1347"><a href="https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/ordering-and-sequencing-numbers">https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/ordering-and-sequencing-numbers</a></p>



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The first half of this term will focus principally on **number and place value**. 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.

After this focus, the children will learn about **mental addition and subtraction**. We will continue to use place value to support us with this. This will then progress on to using the **written methods of addition and subtraction**.

After half term, we will learn about **fractions**. 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.

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.

We will also be taking part in a national times tables survey this term to see which tables our children are most confident in, and which areas need developing further.

My Maths has a variety of games and activities to support the children's learning [www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk) Children have their own log in to My Maths and can practise all areas of the Maths curriculum. We will also use My Maths to set the children practise questions to consolidate areas of the lesson we feel they need more work on from time to time.

[http://www.abcya.com/base\\_ten.htm](http://www.abcya.com/base_ten.htm)



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## Science



### How does your Garden grow?

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 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, or room to grow. In addition to this, we will examine the lifecycle of plants, investigating pollination, seed dispersal and seed formation.

### Amazing Bodies!

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.

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.

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 seed dispersal so encourage them to keep their eyes open for different seeds and seed pods.

[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/)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zy66fg8>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Interactive.aspx?cat=71>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/z9339j6>

<http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/nutritionforkids/games/foodgroupsgame.html>

## Reading

We love reading! Children read in class every day. They read in a variety of ways including whole class, small group and individual reading.

Books will be changed when we feel the children are able to read the words with a good degree of

We hope you will support us in listening to children read at home, if possible, **a minimum of three times a week.**

Your comments are a valuable contribution to the reading record so once you have read together with your child



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fluency and can confidently retell and understand the text. We may send the same book home for a second reading if we feel more practise is needed with the above.

We will also do weekly comprehension lessons. These will enhance the children's reading skills. We will look at different texts related to Japan that give the children the opportunity to build inference and prediction skills. The children will also learn to extract information from non-fiction texts and how to summarise information from texts. These lessons will be supplemented by Mini Comprehensions in their guided Reading sessions which will help build the children's stamina and confidence.

Books will be changed on a Monday and Thursday. Library books can also be changed when the library is open or during the class library session once a week.

please record your experience which helps us to know when to change books.

Don't forget Bug Club! The children are allocated a variety of books appropriate to their reading ages on Bug Club and they have the opportunity to earn points for completing them and answering questions correctly.

[www.bugclub.co.uk](http://www.bugclub.co.uk)

There are also a wide range of e-books available on Oxford Owl for you and the children to enjoy:

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

## Literacy

We will be having a strong focus of 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 to gain /fill the gaps by learning new SPAG skills.

As with their maths, the children will have a daily SPAG starter which will consolidate the skills they

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>



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have been learning and will support them with applying the skills to their independent writing.

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.

This term, we will be covering a variety of text types including:

- Narrative – Fables
- Non-fiction – recounts
- Poetry – free verse
- Play scripts
- Instructions

Our Literacy lessons will be linked, where possible, to our topic on Japan. We will use the Japanese folktale 'Momotaro' to help inspire ideas in all areas of our writing.

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.

## Spelling

We are using a new spelling scheme and we are so excited for our children to be involved! 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-'.

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. Memory recall of all the spellings given. Finding other words with the same pattern. Finding the longest word with this pattern.



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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. Children are going to be re-visiting homophones. Children will also receive homework once a week.

Drawing the letters and decorating them. Making up silly rhymes using each word, for example TEAM = Together Every Ant Munches.

## RE



### Homes

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.

### Promises

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.

### Visitors

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.

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. 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.

## PE

PE is timetabled on Mondays. We will be starting with gymnastics this term. The children will be learn how to balance on one leg, as well as learning different balances. The children will also have the opportunity to use climbing walls. The children will use what they have learnt

There are occasions when extra PE slots are available so it is always a good idea to have kit at school all week. A plain white T-shirt, white shorts and black plimsolls are required for indoor P.E. and we would like the children to wear plain dark tracksuit bottoms and trainers for P.E. outside and for the colder weather.



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to sequence and join moves together, as well as evaluate their own performances.

Please remove earrings, jewellery and watches at home on PE day. Children are required to remove their own earrings because teachers are not authorised to remove them. Please name your child's kit and PE bag.

## Music



In Music this term, we will be learning how to play the recorder. The children will start by identifying different musical instruments, and thinking about the sounds they make. We will then learn to identify the different musical notes, and start applying this with simple tunes on the recorder.

It would be brilliant if the children could practise the recorder at home. This will help them in their lessons, and they will become much more confident with the different notes.

## Homework



We use a range of methods for children to complete Homework.

In year 3 we use Active Learn to access online providers: Education City, RM Easimaths, My Maths and Bug Club for the children to extend their learning. Children have their login codes in their reading records.

Children will receive one piece of Maths and English homework each week, based on the week's learning. Homework is due in on the following Wednesday. Children will also be given the term's topic work in their learning logs. Children will have a week and a half to complete the work for their learning logs. This is an opportunity for the children to be as creative as they like!

Opportunities are available in school for them to access their online work, where appropriate.