

Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term 2

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a restful break over half term and welcome you back to school. Here is what we will be learning over the next few weeks:

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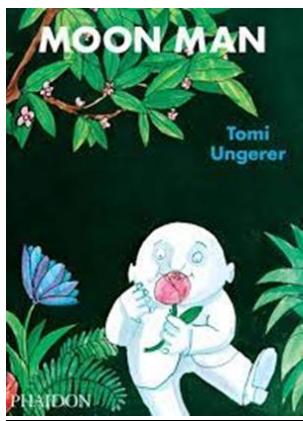
Our topic is called '**From Lent to Easter**'. The children will be learning that Catholics prepare for Easter celebrations in the practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, in a season called Lent. They will each be making their own Lenten promises for a class display. We will then be focusing on one of the prayer practices common during Lent: praying of the Stations of the Cross.



Finally, the children will be learning about what happened on Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday (including the arrest of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane) and Good Friday.

Key vocabulary: *Passion, Passover, Last Supper, Penance, Lent, Ashes, Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Week, almsgiving, crucify, Stations of the Cross, suffering, Triduum, transubstantiation.*

English



Once we have finished 'Lob', our new book will be 'Moon Man' by Tomi Ungerer. Moon Man visits Earth and is imprisoned by some humans who fear his strangeness. He escapes and meets Doktor van der Dunkel who builds a rocket so Moon Man can return home. We will be reflecting on the themes addressed in the book, such as fear of the unknown, prejudice and in contrast; tolerance and the acceptance of difference.

Throughout the half term, we will be focusing on the use of exciting vocabulary and sentence starters in our work (to improve writing). For example, 'As the sun rose...', 'Without warning...', 'Out of the corner of his eye...'. We call these 'fronted adverbials'.

We will also be learning about different word classes (e.g. verbs, adverbs, adjectives) and applying them to our writing. The children will be proofreading their work, checking for errors and improving their punctuation.

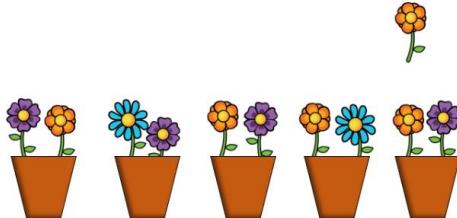
Reading

We will be hearing the children read during our whole class reading sessions in school. We politely ask that you continue to hear your child read for at least 10 minutes each day at home using a range of different texts. Please focus on their understanding of the text and identify any words that they may not know the meaning of. Building their vocabulary and understanding the text are both essential skills in becoming strong readers.

Maths

- 1) The children will be learning how to divide with remainders:

Alex has 11 flowers.



There are 5 pots of 2 and 1 flower remaining.

$$11 \div 2 = 5 \text{ remainder } 1$$

If she plants 2 flowers in each pot.

How many pots can she fill?

- 2) They will be introduced to the short division method with exact answers, before progressing to calculations involving carrying:

$$\begin{array}{r} 32 \\ \hline 3 \overline{)96} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 18 \\ \hline 4 \overline{)7^32} \end{array}$$

- 3) The children will be learning about money. They will learn to identify and use the £ and p symbols. The children will be counting in 1 p, 2 p, 5 p and 10 p coins.
- 4) The children will be learning how to interpret and create tally charts, pictograms and bar charts.

E.g.

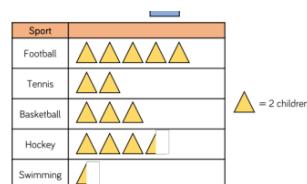
Complete the tally chart for Year 2 and Year 3

Year Group	Tally	Total
Year 1		10
Year 2		19
Year 3		
Year 4		17

Which is the most popular sport?

How many children voted for football and swimming altogether?

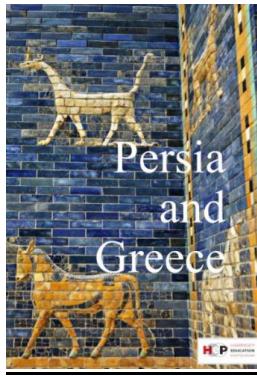
What could the title of this pictogram be?



Art

Our topic is called '**Art and design skills**'. The children will be developing their skills in design, drawing, craft, painting and art appreciation. They will be using different materials, completing a drawing from observation, learning the difference between a tint and a shade and creating versions of a cartoon drawn by a famous illustrator called *Carl Giles*.

History



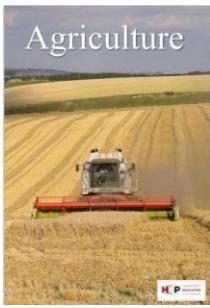
The children will be learning about the Persian Empire and a powerful king who ruled over it (called Darius). They will then explore facts about ancient Greece before learning about the Greek and Persian wars. You may like to find out more and explore these websites with your child:

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z87tn39/articles/zxytpv4>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z87tn39/articles/zckr4wx>

Key vocabulary: *Darius, empire, Persian Empire, Cyrus, Babylon, slaves, succeeded, satrapy, satrap, tax, city-state, polis, agora, acropolis, temple, gymnasium, theatre, Zeus, Olympus, shrines, Poseiden, trident, Ares, Hera, alphabet, alpha, beta, Homer, Iliad, Achilles, besiege, Battle of Marathon, strait*

We have uploaded the history booklet to Google Classroom for you to read through with your child at home.

Geography - 'Agriculture'



The children will be learning about the way that farmers produce our food - growing crops (arable farming) and/or raising animals (pastoral farming) - and that this is called agriculture. We will then be exploring how farming changes the landscape. The children will learn that what we eat affects farming.

Key vocabulary: *agriculture, arable farming, pastoral farming, mixed farming, growing season, plough, graze, dairy farmers, marshlands, forests, hedges, erosion, yields, fertilisers, pesticides, organic food, seasonal food, local, vegetarian, vegan, shorn*

We have uploaded the geography booklet to Google Classroom for you to read through with your child at home.

Computing

We are presenters

The children will be creating an informative presentation for their peers about a topic or subtopic from another curriculum area. They will source images online to illustrate their presentation.

E-Safety - 'We are aware of our digital footprint'

The children will learn what is meant by 'digital footprint'. They will discuss how data about their internet activity is collected passively without them actively authorising this and how this compares with their active digital footprint. They will understand that everything shared on the internet can be found, shared, broadcast and copied and that it lasts forever. Finally, they will begin to build a picture of their own digital footprint.

Science - 'Animals including humans'



The children will learn about how animals get their energy and what we need to eat to stay healthy (the five main food groups).



They will also be learning about the human skeleton and comparing it with animal skeletons.

We have uploaded the science booklet to Google Classroom for you to read through with your child at home.

PE

Games (Directing the ball)

The children will think about how to use skills, strategies, and tactics to outwit the opposition. Throughout this unit, pupils will be encouraged to make more decisions and choices when playing games which involve partner and group work. We will be playing different net games. Lessons will take place on Thursday afternoons. Children should continue to wear their normal PE clothes to school every Thursday for this half term.

Gymnastics (Dance)

The children will explore basic body actions, e.g. jumping, shapes and travel, and use different parts of their body to make movements. They will learn and practise a short dance to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The children will think about how to use movement to communicate ideas, moods and feelings. The children should continue to wear their PE kit on Fridays.

Homework

Homework will be set on Fridays on Google Classroom. Your child will receive a list of spellings to learn and a short maths task. At times, we may also set additional tasks (e.g. geography task).

Acts of Worship

This half term, the children will be taking it in turns to plan for and deliver an 'Act of Worship' to the class. They will be working in small groups with their peers using Google Slides.

We look forward to meeting with you all soon at Parents' Evening. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all again for your continued support at home.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Presland-Smith, Mrs Dinnage, Mrs Murphy, Mrs Young, Mrs Acierno