



Autumn Term Newsletter 2026

Year 3

"With Christ as our guide, we inspire and thrive".

Welcome: A very warm welcome back to a new academic year. We hope you have had a lovely summer, and the children are excited and raring to go. We are really looking forward to getting to know your children more over the course of the year, assisting them to achieve their goals and developing their character strengths such as confidence and resilience.

For your information, PE will take place on **Tuesdays**, so children will need to arrive in school dressed in their school PE kits. Please ensure reading records are in school every day for our monitoring. We encourage children to read daily at home, and it is a school requirement that children have **read 5 times per week**. Please enter a comment each time your child reads at home.

Religious Education: We start the year by revisiting the first story of Creation from the book of Genesis. We will explore what happens in this powerful poem and what it teaches us about God. The children will explore what happens during Mass and make links with scripture. We then move on to explore prophecy and promise. We investigate why Catholics go to Mass and how Catholics celebrate Mass. Finally, we will focus on the season of Advent.

Mathematics: Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division

Writing: This term we will be using the following books in class to support your child's writing skills.

- 'Seal Surfer' by Michael Foreman- letter in role
- 'Winter's Child' by Angela McAllister – fantasy fiction

Composition:

- Plan writing by discussing the structure, vocabulary and grammar of similar writing
- Discuss and record ideas
- Compose and rehearse sentences orally
- Build an increasing range of sentence structures
- Proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors
- Assess the effectiveness of writing

Handwriting and Presentation:

To continue to develop our handwriting making sure it is legible and joined correctly.

Spoken Language:

Ask relevant questions, build vocabulary, participate in discussions and articulate and justify answers.

Grammar:

- Expanded noun phrases
- Correct use of adverbs
- Use conjunctions
- Punctuate dialogue
- Fronted adverbials
- Use a or an accurately

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Spelling:

- Word list- Year 3 and 4
- Adding suffixes (ed, ing, ly and es) to the end of root words.
- Common exception words
- Homophones and near-homophones

Reading: This term we will be using the following books in class.

- 'The Sea Book' by Charlotte Milner
- 'Ice Palace' by Robert Swindells

Children in Year 3 benefit from being read to and listened to regularly. Please share books together at home.

Comprehension

- Identify main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarise.
- Identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning.
- Identify themes and conventions in a wide range of books.

Science: Animals including Humans- the importance of nutrition and the purpose of skeletons and muscles. Rocks- formation of different types of rocks and classifying rocks.

Computing: E-safety - Computing Systems - Network Email.

History: Stone Age.

Geography: Settlements and Land Use.

Art & Design: Gestural Drawing with Charcoal.

Design Technology: Shell Structures.

Music: I've Been to Harlem - Nao Chariya DeMingulay Boat Song -Sound Symmetry

French: A New Start – Calendar and Celebrations.

PSHE: Mental Health – Friendships - Bullying

PE / Sports: Fundamentals- balancing, running, skipping and catching. Ball skills- throwing, catching, dribbling and kicking a ball.

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Home Learning: Home learning will be set each week on Tuesdays via Google Classroom. Each week, children will be given:

- 1 Maths task
- 1 English task (this will alternate between grammar and reading comprehension)

In addition to, children are expected to continue their daily reading and to practise their times tables on TT Rockstars. Some tasks will be paper based, while others will be set through our online learning platform, IXL. Please make sure all home learning is finished and handed in by the following Tuesday. If it isn't completed, your child will be given time at school to complete it. We encourage the children to take responsibility for their own learning and do their best to complete it on time.

Home Reading: As well as set home learning, your child should also spend time each evening reading for at least 5-10 minutes. He/she will bring home a book from school. This book must be read as your child will have been assessed and set to match their reading band age. They may also read a book of their own choice from home / the library alongside this if they wish. Each child will also receive a reading record. The record should be filled in every time the child reads at home (minimum 3 x per week). The children should make notes about what they have read each week and have this signed by a parent / carer. This will be checked in school weekly so any parental comments can also be communicated here.

How you can help at home:

Teach your child that failure is a stepping-stone to success and make academic subjects feel relevant to your child. Try to involve games in learning as much as possible. Where possible, research some areas of learning as this will act as pre learning which will support your child being ready for the lessons.

- **Set a routine** – choose a regular time for home learning each day.
- **Create a quiet space** – free from distractions, with everything they need.
- **Encourage independence** – let them try first, then offer help if needed.
- **Talk about learning** – ask questions about their reading or maths.
- **Daily practice** – keep up with reading and times tables on TT Rockstars.
- **Praise effort** – celebrate persistence as well as correct answers.
- **Stay connected** – check Google Classroom/IXL together and contact school if needed.

Read to Succeed Reward System.



Bronze Star = 35 Reads
You've started your reading journey—keep it up!



Silver star = 70 Reads
You're halfway to greatness—amazing progress!



Gold Star = 95 Reads
You're a reading champion—golden level achieved!

Choose a book YOU love!
At the end of the year, your chosen book will be **gift-wrapped** and **personally presented** to you by **Mr McDermott** in a special celebration!



Work hard. Read lots. Earn your reward!
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