ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

YEAR: 3 **TERM 2** **CURRICULUM OVERVIEW**

Mathematics

This term we will learn the formal methods for addition and subtraction. We will consolidate and apply these methods to ensure the children are fluent in number and are able to apply what they know by participating and completing reasoning and problem - solving challenges. There will continue to be a strong emphasis placed upon children's ability to calculate mentally and then use this knowledge to make connections. For example, if we know that 5 + 7 =12, then we know that 50+ 70 = 120 and 500+ 700 = 1200 and we will build upon our Place value knowledge by knowing that if there are 12 tens in 120, we know that there are 120 tens in 1200. This term we will focus upon multiplication and division facts for the 2's, 3's 4's and 8 times tables within our Maths lessons. We will continue to test times tables weekly.

RE

This term, Year 3 will be learning about the importance of **Mass** and the season of **Advent** within the Catholic faith. The children will explore why Sunday is a special day for Christians, linking it to the Creation story and understanding the significance of Sunday Mass. They will learn about the different parts of the Mass, including the prayers, signs, actions, and symbols used by Catholics, and consider how these help believers express and live out their faith. As Advent approaches, the children will study the important role of angels in the Gospels and learn how Joseph showed trust in God when receiving the angel's message. They will explore the connections between the prophecies of Isaiah and the coming of Jesus, as well as the meaning of the signs and symbols associated with Advent and Christmas. Through discussion, reflection, artwork, music, and prayer, pupils will deepen their understanding of this special season and its message of hope and preparation.

English

Our class text this term is Into the Volcano by Jess Butterworth. Using this text and our Geography topic on volcanoes as inspiration, the children will write newspaper reports and structured poetry. They will develop their reading comprehension skills by retrieving and recording information, checking that texts make sense, discussing their understanding, and explaining the meaning of words in context. We will continue to focus on building vocabulary, punctuation, grammar, and spelling skills. Reading remains a key priority, with daily opportunities for both independent reading and comprehension activities. In Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS), the children will learn how to use a dictionary effectively, as well as explore adjectives, pronouns, and coordinating conjunctions.

Design and Technology

We will explore pneumatic toys. Pupils will learn what a pneumatic system is, design and create their very our toy with a pneumatic system. Pupils will then evaluate their toys against a set of design criteria.

Computing- Word Processing Skills

We will consolidate and continue to develop our word processing skills learnt in Year 1 and 2. We will learn to change the case of a text, align text, use bullets and numbering, use the <ctrl> key and insert and format text boxes.

Physical Education

Year 3 are completing their **Fitness** and **Mindful Movement** units this term. These topics complement one another as the children develop their strength, balance, coordination, and endurance through a range of physical activities, while also learning techniques to support their wellbeing and focus.

RSHE

Created and Loved by God. This module explores the individual and is rooted in the teaching that we are made in the image and likeness of God. This helps children to develop an understanding of the importance of valuing themselves as the basis for personal relationships.

Geography: Why do people live near volcanoes?

We will learn how the Earth is constructed and about tectonic plates and their boundaries. The children will learn how mountains are formed, explain the formation and types of volcanoes, and explore the cause of earthquakes. They will map the global distribution of mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes and consider the negative and positive effects of living in a volcanic environment and the ways in which humans have responded to earthquakes.

Science

This term, Year 3 will be exploring the exciting topic of **Forces and Magnets**. Through practical investigations and hands-on experiments, the children will discover how different forces affect the movement of objects and how magnets work in everyday life. They will learn to plan and carry out fair tests, make predictions, record their findings, and draw conclusions from their observations. The children will investigate how different surfaces affect movement, compare and group materials according to their magnetic properties, and explore how magnetic poles attract and repel. They will also test the strength of different magnets, developing their scientific enquiry skills while building their understanding of the world around them. This engaging topic will encourage curiosity, questioning, and teamwork as the children think and work like scientists.

Music

This term, the children will be learning to play the glockenspiel in their music lessons. They will explore basic playing techniques, learn how to read simple musical notation, and develop their understanding of rhythm and pitch.

French

This term the children will continue to learn all about the topic of 'Me and others: singular 'être' and regular adjectives'. Pupils will learn how to introduce themselves and describe themselves and others in French.