



ST JOHN'S
A PRIORY ACADEMY

Curriculum Newsletter – Year 3

Summer 2

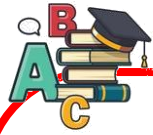
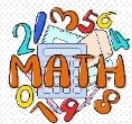
Value of the term:
Tolerance

Dear Families,

We are looking forward to the new term. Here is an overview of the learning we will be covering. We hope you will be able to support your child's learning at home by reading with them and talking about the work they are doing in class.

Maths

In Maths this term, we will be covering a few key topics. We'll begin by looking at shape and angles, where the children will learn how to identify and describe different types of angles as well as recognise 2D and 3D shapes and their properties. We will also be continuing our work on time, with a stronger focus on comparing and calculating start and end times, and working with seconds to build on the skills we've already developed. Later in the term, we will explore statistics by learning how to read and interpret bar charts and pictograms, helping the children understand how data can be organised and presented clearly.



English

Reading

In reading this term, we will continue to develop a range of comprehension skills. We will also focus on improving reading fluency, working on expression, volume, and pace to help bring stories to life. The children will explore different types of books such as fiction, non-fiction, and poetry, with our main focus being the book *The Ancient Egyptian Sleepover*.

Writing

This term in writing, we are beginning with a narrative unit inspired by the book *The Ancient Egyptian Sleepover*. The children will use the structure of this story to help them write their own narratives, imagining different rooms in the Natural History Museum as settings. We will focus on writing similar story openings and build-ups, before creating our own problems, resolutions and endings. As part of this unit, we will explore key SPaG features including inverted commas for speech, the present perfect tense, using *a* or *an*, and coordinating conjunctions to create compound sentences. We will also revisit important SPaG elements from previous years such as capital letters and full stops. Following this, the children will write a set of instructions explaining how to mummify a body, incorporating features like time adverbs, adverbs, prepositions, imperative verbs and conjunctions to show time and cause. We will finish the term by writing informal letters to our new teachers, introducing ourselves and explaining what we enjoy about school.

Science



In Science this term, we are continuing our focus on plants and soil by learning about the role flowers play in the life cycle of a flowering plant. We will look at how pollination happens and how pollen is moved from one flower to another by insects, animals or the wind. After that, we'll learn about how seeds are formed after fertilisation and how different plants spread their seeds through seed dispersal methods like wind, animals and water. We will also continue exploring soil by looking at how different types of soil can affect how well a plant grows. Throughout the unit, we'll take part in practical investigations to help us understand these processes more clearly.

PSHE

In PSHE this term, our focus is on healthy eating as we explore the topic question: *Is it easy to be healthy?* Throughout the unit, we will look at different types of snacks and learn to identify which are healthier choices. We will also explore food and drink branding and how it can influence people's decisions when shopping. In addition, we will consider the benefits of keeping active and how exercise supports a healthy lifestyle. To deepen our understanding, we will also reflect on some of the challenges people may face when trying to stay active and healthy.



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PE



In P.E. this term with Coach Danny, we will be focusing on athletics as we begin preparing for Sports Day. This will involve exploring a range of athletic disciplines including sprinting technique, relay racing, jumping events and throwing events with an emphasis on both distance and accuracy. With the class teacher, our focus will be on rounders, a striking and fielding game. We will be learning how to score points, developing our batting skills, and improving our ability to field effectively to prevent the opposing team from scoring. Children will also learn about the role of the bowler within a fielding team before having the opportunity to apply these skills in full game situations.

History



Our history topic this term is the Ancient Egyptians, and we'll be exploring the big question: *Were the Ancient Egyptians significant?* To answer this, we will begin by looking at the geographical features of Egypt and placing key events in Ancient Egyptian history on a timeline. We'll then explore what daily life was like, the structure of their society, and the importance of religion and beliefs in their everyday lives. We'll also study some of the remarkable architecture the Ancient Egyptians created, with a particular focus on King Tutankhamun. Finally, we will look at the key achievements and lasting legacy that the Ancient Egyptians left behind.

D.T.



In DT this term, we will be designing and making a toy that operates using a pneumatic system. The children will begin by learning how pneumatic systems create movement through mechanisms, and they will explore different types of diagrams to help summarise and explain this information. They will then move on to designing their own toy that incorporates a working pneumatic system, before building and assembling it to ensure that the mechanism makes the toy move as intended. Finally, we will evaluate the finished product, thinking about what worked well and what could be improved.

Computing

In Computing this term, we are focusing on animations. The children will begin by learning that an animation is a sequence of drawings or images shown in order to create the effect of movement. They will explore how animated movement is created through a sequence of images, before planning and creating their own animation. Once their animation is complete, they will have the opportunity to review and improve it, and finally evaluate the impact of adding other media—such as sound or text—to enhance the final product.



RE



In Religious Education this term, we are exploring the importance of the River Ganges to Hindus. The children will begin by considering the value of water in general, before learning about the history of the River Ganges and why it holds such significance for both the people living around it and Hindus worldwide. They will explore the Hindu rituals that take place at the river, as well as consider why non-Hindus may also choose to visit this sacred place. We will compare the experiences of Hindu and non-Hindu visitors and evaluate whether visiting the River Ganges would feel as special for someone outside the faith. The unit will end with the children expressing their own feelings about the importance of cleanliness, drawing comparisons with Hindu practices at the River Ganges.