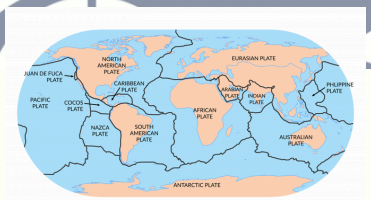
ST JAMES' Church of England ACADEMY

SPRING TERM 2

YEAR 3

THE PURPOSE OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS TO INFORM YOU OF THE TOPICS THAT YOUR CHILDREN WILL BE STUDYING DURING THIS HALF TERM.



LIGHT AND SHADOWS

Literacy

In Literacy our focus will be on the text 'Escape from Pompeii' by the author Christian Balit. The children will create exciting setting descriptions using expanded noun phrases to describe the scene of Pompeii. Children will explore how feelings change throughout the story and write letters of advice on how to save yourself from a volcanic eruption. We will also become journalists when writing a newspaper article reporting on the eruption.

Reading

In reading we will be focusing on the text 'Mr Penguin and the Lost Treasure' by Alex Smith . The children will use the text to find meaning beyond the literal and use inference skills to work out the characteristics of different people from the story.

Science

In Science the children will continue to expand their knowledge about 'Light and Shadows.' The children will learn about different sources of light and whether the sources are artificial or natural. They will find out about the benefits and dangers of the sun, and how to protect themselves from sun damage. Pupils will learn about the terms transparent, translucent and opaque, They will also investigate a range of materials and categorise based on the terms they have learnt.

R.E.

In R.E the children will be focusing on the question 'What are the deeper meanings of festivals?' The children will identify the differences between religious festivals and other types of celebrations. They will learn about the Jewish celebrations of Passover as well as Sukkot. Children will then sequence the story of Esther which is remembered during the festival of Purim.

Home Reading

Home reading books will be changed and sent home every Friday. Please encourage your children to read for pleasure and to discuss these stories with you. Please sign their reading record daily and return them to school each day. Each child will be entered into a reading challenge where they must read at least 3 times each week.

PSHE

In PSHE we will be collectively working on the children's 'Healthy Me.' This will cover learning about being fit and healthy, as well as being safe and unsafe.

Numeracy

Our main areas of study will be:

- Using the column method for addition and subtraction
- Multiplying by 2, 3, 4 and 8.
- Dividing by 2, 3, 4 and 8.
- Sharing and grouping numbers.
- Using arrays.

We will be focusing on the 3, 4 and 8 times tables, as well as revisiting and consolidating the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.
Your support at home with helping your children to learn their times tables will be greatly appreciated.

Geography

In Geography we will be focusing on Volcanoes and how they are formed. The children will learn about tectonic plates and how the earth has four layers. We will then learn about the 'ring of fire' and how three-quarters of the world earthquakes and volcanic eruptions happen along this. They will use their knowledge and skills of using maps to locate places using lines of longitude and latitude. By the end of the unit the children will be able to answer the enquiry question 'How do plate tectonics affect the location of volcanoes?'

History

In History the children will be complete their learning on 'How was the Roman invasion of Britain significant?' This project will teach children about the history and structure of the Roman empire. They will conduct a detailed study of the Romanisation of Britain and discuss the impact that this had. The children will be focusing on how Britons responded to Roman rule and understand the conflict and disaster that changed the way of life for the Celts. We will use archaelogical evidence to learn about this period of time.

Music

In Music we will be learning the pulse and rhythm of different pieces of music. We will be focusing on songs such as Three Little Birds and The Dragon song.

Computing/Spanish

In computing we will be focusing on the importance of E-Safety. They will also be learning how to sequence sounds using Information Technology.
The children will learn about the Spanish language. They will be able to say basic phrases, such as greetings and focusing on the pronunciation of letters.

Homework

Times tables and spelling books will be handed out each week. A times tables and spelling test will be completed every Monday. Your continued support in preparing for the test is gratefully appreciated.

Art/DT

Our Art lessons will be focusing on fossils and creating work that includes printmaking and clay sculptures.
In DT the children will be constructing mechanisms and machines as well as explaining and recording how they work.

PE

PE lessons will take place on **Friday** afternoons. PE kits should be brought into school every Monday and taken home to be washed every Friday. Children will need their PE kit of plain red shorts and plain white T Shirt,

If you have any concerns: please speak to Miss Worrall or Mrs Moore on the door or please ring/email the school office if it is urgent.