

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Primary School
Year 3 Curriculum News
Spring Term 2025



News Updates:

Welcome back, everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break filled with joy, laughter, and plenty of festive cheer. It's fantastic to see you all back in the classroom, refreshed and ready for a brand new term. I know you've all grown a little bit over the holidays, and I'm excited to see how you've matured and what new experiences you bring back with you. This term promises to be an exciting one, packed with engaging lessons, interesting projects, and plenty of opportunities to learn and grow. We have some fantastic topics to explore. I'm looking forward to embarking on this learning journey with you all and making this term a truly memorable one. Let's make it a great one!

Important Dates:

March –

History to Life

Flavia will arrive with fantastic museum quality resources to explore nearly 300 years of Roman occupation.

- Hands on investigations of artefacts to explore everyday life and legionaries.
- Roman writing and numerals.
- Roman Games - of luck and skill.
- Life in the army - learn Roman drill with a shield and gladius. (Great for photos!)
- The British Celts and Boudicca - how did they live and fight? how were they different to the Romans?

Reminders:

PE days – Monday and Thursday.

Please bring your book to school daily, along with your signed reading record (by an adult), to show you have read at home.

Curriculum Overview

Mathematics

- Multiplication and Division
- Length and perimeter
- Fractions
- Mass and capacity

English

Everest by Alexandra Stewart and Joe Todd-Stanton – Diary entry.

Escape from Pompeii by Christina Balit – Newspaper article

Reading

Philip Pullman – The firework-maker's daughter

Lila doesn't just want to be a Firework-Maker's daughter, she wants to be a Firework-Maker herself.

But although she's learned a lot she still must get through the most difficult and dangerous part of her apprenticeship – and her father won't tell her what it is.

In search of this final Firework-Making secret, Lila heads off alone on a journey. It is a journey filled with dangers beyond anything she could have imagined, a journey on which she will learn so much more than the one secret she set out to find....

Geography

Why do people live near volcanoes? In this project, we'll find out about dangerous world of natural disasters and their deadly effects. BY carrying out research, we'll investigate the Earth's layers and the location of volcanoes, discovering what causes them to erupt.

History

Why did the Romans invade and settle in Britain?

We will explain what was important to people in Ancient Rome. Analyse the different reasons for the Roman invasion of Britain. Explain how the Celts responded to the Roman invasion.

Explain how the Roman army's structure, discipline and equipment made it so successful. Use artefacts to make deductions about the lives of Roman soldiers in Britain. Explain the meaning of legacy, identifying how the Romans changed Britain and ordering legacies by their significance.

Science

Materials: Rocks and Soils

This half term we'll gather rock samples, find out about different types of rocks and sort them according to their properties. You will use a magnifying glass correctly to observe the appearance of a rock in detail. We will spend some time describing the work of a palaeontologist including describing fossil formation and identifying fossils in rocks. At the end of the topic, we will name, describe and compare some different categories of soil. List some of the benefits of earthworms to the soil.

Design Technology

Electrical systems: Electric poster

Curriculum Overview

Art and Design

In this pathway children use close looking and the “Show Me What You See” technique to explore artwork from a particular artist, movement or era. Children then explore how they can use shape and colour to simplify elements, inspired by the Cut-outs of Henri Matisse.

Using first collage, then simple printmaking methods, pupils play with positive and negative shapes and spaces to create meaningful compositions in response to the original artworks they looked at.

PE

➤ Gymnastics

In this unit pupils develop balancing, rolling and jumping. They use these skills individually and in combination. Children develop their sequence work, collaborating with others to use matching and contrasting actions and shapes and develop linking sequences smoothly with actions that flow. Children develop their confidence to perform, considering the quality and control of their actions.

➤ Hockey

Hockey is an invasion game. In this unit children develop their understanding of the attacking and defending principles of invasion games. In all games activities, children have to think about how they use skills, strategies and tactics to outwit the opposition,

Music

The Dragon Song by Joanna Mangona and Pete Readman - Traditional Folk tunes from around the

world, celebrating our differences and being kind to one another.

The Dragon Song is a musical fable where an animal character gives us an important message.

This is a song about kindness, respect, friendship, acceptance and happiness.

- Warm-up games play and copy back
- Singing in 2 parts
- Play instrumental parts
- Improvise
- Compose
- Perform & Share

French

In this unit, pupils will learn how to:

- ☑ Recognise, recall and spell up to 10 instruments in French with the correct definite article/determiner.
- Understand articles/determiners better and that the definite article/determiner ‘the’ has a plural form in French.
- Learn to say and write ‘I play an instrument’ in French using the high frequency 1st person regular verb ‘je joue’ (I play) with up to 10 different instruments.

Computing

➤ Online Safety

Children understand the importance of a secure password and not sharing this with anyone else. Furthermore, children understand the negative implications of failure to keep passwords safe and secure and can suggest examples of good and poor passwords. When using the internet, children can appraise the accuracy of the information on a website and make decisions on whether it is a trustworthy source of information.

➤ Spreadsheets

Homework expectations:

Reading

It is strongly encouraged that children read regularly to an adult at home (at least three times per week) and give a little time to discuss what has been read. Please record your child's reading in their reading record. This supports children's fluency as well as their vocabulary and understanding of the books they read. Reading really is the foundation of all learning. Alongside their reading book, your child will be given a reading challenge. Their books will be changed once they have completed the reading challenge and a parental signature is in their reading record.

Spellings

Purple Mash Spelling scheme provides children with a fun way to learn their spellings each week, in school and at home. Children will be sent home with Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check sheet that is in line with the spellings for each week. As well as completing their LSCWC document, we encourage children to access the set quizzes and beat their time and accuracy of spellings throughout the week on the online scheme.

Times tables

Equally, I encourage children to regularly access Times Tables Rockstars at home (preferably three times a week) to support the learning of the times tables. By the end of Year 3, children should be able to accurately and quickly recall the 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables, which will support them knowing all the times tables facts to 12 by the end of Year 4. Times table facts are key to supporting numerous areas of the maths curriculum.

If you click on your avatar icon in the top right of the screen and then click 'Stats', a heatmap will load. It shows how successful your child is at each of the facts.

Useful websites.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/>

<https://www.purplemash.com/sch/ourlady-dn2#/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>



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