

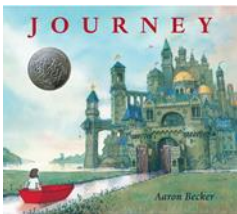
Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year. We'd like to welcome you back to school after Christmas and let you know what we will be doing this half term.



This term our Year 3 Geography topic is: Rocks, Relics and Rumbles. We will learn about the different layers of the Earth, including plate tectonics and their potential effects on the Earth's surface. We will investigate different types of rock to learn about their uses and properties as well as an investigation on soil and fossils and the work of Mary Anning. We will also learn about volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis and the long and short-term consequences that these can have.

This half term in PE we will complete units called "inspire create perform" and "duel win lose". These units will develop their knowledge of simple actions and use of space, relationships and dynamics. We will have fun with different stimuli and experiment with simple choreographic approaches. We will revisit competition and the ways in which we can support children to cope with success and failure.



In English, we will be following the book 'Journey' by Aaron Becker. We will be working on instruction writing for how to rescue a mythical bird. For our Reading, our class book will be 'The Boy who biked the world' by Alastair Humphreys. Children will explore word meanings and vocabulary as well as developing their reading fluency. Reading books should be in school every day but will be changed on a Friday.

In Maths we are continuing to look at Multiplication and Division before moving onto Length and perimeter. It is vital that children continue to practise their fluency in times tables and can confidently and quickly answer recall questions on the times tables covered so far, the 2,3,4,5,8 and 10 times tables. The children can practise their times tables on TTRockstars to help them become more secure.

In RSHE, we will be learning about what keeps us safe, hazards, safety when out and about, dangerous substances and how to respond when we feel we're being put under pressure.



In science, we will learn all about what forces are and what they do. We will learn about pushing and pulling forces and sort different actions into pushes and pulls and will be able to identify and explain contact forces and investigate frictional forces. We will learn about magnetism (a non-contact force) and explore bar magnets. We will test the magnetic properties of different objects. We will use our knowledge to investigate the strength of magnets.

We will continue to use our music platform, Charanga, which the children seem to be thoroughly enjoying. This half term we will be learning to play the glockenspiel.

In Art and Design we will be learning about artistic techniques used in sketching, printmaking and sculpture in our topic, Ammonite. In Design and Technology, we will be learning about cam mechanisms in our topic, Making It Move. We will experiment with different shaped cams before designing, making and evaluating a child's automaton toy.

Thank you for all your help and support so far. Please contact us through the Year 3 email – year3@stthomas.org.uk - should you have any queries or concerns. Alternatively, speak to us on playground at the end of the day.

And a final thanks to all those that did lots of Home Learning during our first day back – A Snow Day!!

Mrs Appleton, Mr Sykes and Mrs Moon 😊