



ST LAURENCE CHURCH JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 3 Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 2026

A warm welcome to you from the Year 3 team: Mrs Hamilton (3H), Mr Wallace (3P), Miss Williams (3W), Miss Johnson, Miss Dye, Miss Dalton, Miss Hicks and Miss Coombes (Teaching Assistants).

We are delighted that you have chosen St Laurence Church Junior School to continue your child's education. Please introduce yourself to your child's class teacher so that we can get to know you. As a team we aim to make the transition from Infants to Juniors as smooth as possible and appreciate that this is a big step in your child's life. Each half term we will write a newsletter, telling you about the learning for the next half term and any important dates which will be uploaded onto the school website:

St Laurence Church Junior School - Year 3

Please check the website regularly as letters and other important information will be put on there!

Reading

This year, we will be reading a range of exciting books. Each classroom has a reading area where we hope the children will continue their love for reading.

We will be sending home reading books home each week with reading diaries, please encourage your children to read at home as they are rewarded a 'smiley' face for three (minimum) entries in their diaries every week. These 'smiley' faces then contribute towards merits. Please initial their entries to show that you have heard or seen them read. We welcome your comments about their reading in their diaries too. Children can also record additional books read in their reading diaries. Don't forget this can include books from home. We will also be visiting the school library on a weekly basis so your child will have the opportunity to read an even wider range of books. Thank you in advance for your support with reading. Our reading book change day will be on a **Wednesday** for all 3 classes. Our library day is a **Tuesday**. We will also be visiting Northfield Library in November– more details to follow.



Writing

Our writing work this half term will be based on the book 'In Our Hands' by Lucy Farfort. We will be recapping some of the key objectives from the year 2 curriculum before we move onto the year 3 objectives. The children will be writing their own version of this story using the skills we have revised with them.

Maths

Our focus in Maths this half term will be place value, addition and subtraction skills and multiplication. Times tables and number bonds are also vital in all areas of maths, so children will be encouraged to recall facts and tables quickly. By the end of year three, children are expected to know their 3,4 and 8 times tables as well as the 2,5 and 10 times tables from year 2. By the end of year 4, pupils need to know all of their tables (up to 12) and will sit a times table test (government initiative). To aid your child with this, it would be helpful if you could help them at home with learning the rapid recall of the times tables. We will be using Times Table Rock Stars (<https://trockstars.com/>) to help learn their times tables. More information on this will follow once we have all of the log in details. Learning to tell the time is also part of the year 3 curriculum and is also a life skill. We will be covering time later in the year, but would really appreciate your help with this at home.



Homework We will be using a phased approach to homework this year. A separate letter will be sent to you explaining this approach.

Spelling This year, we will be using a spelling scheme, CUSP. Children will be taking part in weekly spelling lessons and identifying spellings in their writing. They will have a piece of spelling homework to complete each week in their homework books. There won't be weekly spelling tests for the children.



Inspiration Day

Our Inspiration day is on Friday 11th September. We will read a story about a caveman and make our own cave paintings. We will NOT be dressing up for this, children are to come to school in normal uniform.

History

Our History unit for this half term is Scavengers and Settlers. During this topic, we will be going back in time to investigate various historical periods in Britain including, The Stone and Bronze ages and The Iron Age Celts.

Science

We will be investigating different types of rocks and how they are formed.



R.E.

This half term we will be looking at how God created the world and how we need to look after it.

DT

Our DT focus will be structures, where we will look at designing and building a structure.

PSHE

In this unit, the children learn to recognise their self-worth and identify positive things about themselves and their achievements. They talk about new challenges and how to face them with positivity. The children talk about the need for rules and how these relate to rights and responsibilities. They talk about choices and consequences, working collaboratively and seeing things from other people's points of view. The children talk about different feelings and the ability to recognise these feelings in themselves and others.

Music

Our topic is learning to play the glockenspiel. Children will learn to play the glockenspiel and sing along to music.

P.E

We would really appreciate it if your child was able to get dressed and undressed for PE and swimming in a timely manner so we can make the most of our PE and swimming slot. Some children may need a little bit of practice with this.

3H Swimming—Monday afternoons

3P and 3W Gymnastics and Tag Rugby on Monday afternoons

General Notices

At break times, children can bring in a healthy snack such as a piece of fruit or vegetable sticks. Please also remember that water bottles (plastic) should ONLY be filled with water. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact school. We look forward to working with you and your child this year.

DIARY DATES

11.9.26

Year 3 Inspiration day

13.10.26

Harvest service in Church

23.10.26

Break up for half term.

2.11.26

Return to school

10.11.26

Parents' evening 3:45-6:15

12.11.26

Parents' evening 4:30-7:00

13.11.26

INSET school closed

8.12.26

Christingle service in Church

18.12.26

Break up for Christmas