



ST LAURENCE CHURCH JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 3 News

January 2026

Issue 3

Welcome back!

Welcome back and happy new year! We hope you have all had a great Christmas break and are keen to kick start the New Year. It is going to be a great half term with lots of exciting new learning opportunities for the children. As usual, the last half term was a busy one, with children enjoying our 'Food Glorious Food' topic as well as showcasing our Christmas Collective Worship. We were really proud of the children!

Maths

This half term we will be continuing to cover the National Curriculum, looking at:

- Multiplication and division, concentrating on formal methods using the 3, 4 and 8 times table
- Length and Perimeter.

As always we encourage children to continue to practise their times tables and number bonds. Children should be secure in their times tables both in and out of order and answer with speed and accuracy. By the end of year 3, the children need to be able to recall the 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables.

English

In English we will be reading the award winning 'Nen and the Lonely Fisherman.' We will focus on Year 3 grammar objectives when writing a retelling of the story. We will also be looking at 'The Big Book of Blue' and creating an information text and writing a persuasive letter.



Reading

Children will continue to have a daily class reading session. During our reading sessions, we not only listen for fluency in reading but also make sure the children understand what is happening in the text. The understanding of the text is what we will judge the reading on, not just the ability to read. Books are changed on a Wednesday for every class in year 3. Some of the books are longer than others so may take longer for the children to read and may be changed fortnightly.

Please continue to encourage your children to read at home as they are rewarded a 'smiley' face for three entries or signatures in their diaries every week. 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.

Homework

Thank you for your continued support with homework since September. We feel the children have now settled into the routine of collecting homework on a Friday and bringing it back the following Wednesday. Please can we remind you to sign their homework to say you have looked at it or helped them with it.

- Read at least 3 times a week and write at least one comment and an adult to sign for the other times they have heard their child read. (These can be about ANY book.)
- Complete their spelling homework in their English book.
- Complete a piece of English and Maths homework on Atom Learning (some children will receive paper homework- please ask your child if this applies to them).



Curriculum

Curriculum Overview

History

Our History focus for this half term is The Romans. During this unit, we will be going back in time to find out about the Romans and what they did for us today. On Tuesday 6th January 2025, we will be having our inspiration day for this topic. Children can come dressed as a Roman. Further information can also be found on the school's website, [Year 3 Page](#)

French

We will be continuing to develop our French speaking and writing skills this half term, building on what the children have learnt during the first half term.

R.E.

Our RE focus this half term will be on Sikhism. This includes a visit to the Gurdwara on Tuesday 27th January or Wednesday 28th January. We will be taking 45 children (3H class will be split) on each day. An email has been sent out with details of payment on Arbor etc. Details of when each child in 3H are going will be sent out closer to the time.

P.S.H.E (Jigsaw)

Dreams and Goals aims to help children think about their hopes and dreams, their goals for success, what personal strengths are, and how to overcome challenges, via team work skills and tasks. There is also a focus on enterprise and fundraising. Children learn about experiencing and managing feelings of pride, ambition, disappointment, success; and they get to share their aspirations, the dreams and goals of others in different cultures/countries, and their dreams for the world.

P.E.

PE will continue to take place every week. Please see the information below for when your child's PE sessions will be.

3M- Swimming every Monday afternoon 3H - Thursday pm 3W- Friday pm

Art

During Art lessons we will learn to recognise how artists use shape in drawings. We will be creating our own still life drawings. We will also be looking at prehistoric art.

School uniform

Please ensure your child comes to school wearing the correct uniform. Children need to be wearing a V-neck jumper, a shirt and a tie. Can we also remind you that children should be wearing shoes and not boots to school. As the winter weather continues, children can walk to school in boots / wellingtons but must have their school shoes to change into when they arrive in school. Long hair should also be tied back and for PE / swimming, earrings will need to be removed or covered.

Chester Zoo Trip

Trip to Chester Zoo – Friday 6th February 2026. We are delighted to share that we have secured free admission for all pupils. Cost: £15.00 per pupil, or £7.50 for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium (covering transport). Travel Information: Children are welcome into school from 7:45 am. Coaches will depart promptly at 8:15 am.

We plan to leave the zoo at 3:00 pm and expect to return to school at approximately 6:30 pm. We will stop partway through the outward and return journey, during which children will be provided with a small snack and the opportunity to use the toilets. Children will need to bring a packed lunch in a small back pack with a drink (no fizzy drinks, nuts or sweets) a warm, waterproof coat and sensible shoes. Children are to wear their school uniform. Children are NOT required to bring spending money as unfortunately, there will not be the opportunity to visit the gift shop. If you are eligible for Free School meals, please email enquiry@stlrcnj.bham.sch.uk to indicate that you would like school to provide your child with a free packed lunch. This promises to be an exciting day and an excellent link to our Geography curriculum in the summer term. Please log onto Arbor to make the payment.

DIARY DATES

Inspiration day:

Tuesday 6th January

Gurdwara Trip

Tuesday 27th January &
Wednesday 28th January

Chester Zoo Trip

Friday 6th February

Year 3 Fabulous Finish

Friday 13th February (more
information to follow)