



St Mark's CE Primary School

Year 3 Newsletter

Spring 1



This half term, children will explore the key historical question *What was life like in Roman Britain?* They will learn about the Roman invasion, significant events and key figures, making links to previous learning. By the end of the unit, children will be able to explain why events happened and suggest reasons for people's actions in the past, developing their historical enquiry skills.

English

This half term in English, the children will be studying *Escape from Pompeii* by Christina Balit. Through this historical story, the children will travel back in time to the Roman Empire and experience the dramatic eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

We will explore the characters and events in the story in detail. They will use clues from the text and illustrations to infer the characters' thoughts, feelings and motives. Using this understanding, children will write a diary entry from the perspective of a character, describing their experiences and emotions during the eruption.

As the unit progresses, the children will plan and write their own five-part story based on *Escape from Pompeii*.

Throughout the unit, children will develop their descriptive writing skills, use historical vocabulary, and practise structuring their writing clearly. By the end of the half term, they will have produced a well-structured, imaginative narrative inspired by the events of *Escape from Pompeii*.

Reading

Thank you to all the parents and carers who support their children by listening to them read each night. Please remember to sign and date your child's reading diary every time they read at home, as this ensures they are entered into the opportunity to win a new book.

Maths

This half term, children will develop their understanding of multiplication and division using the formal written (column) method. They will also learn to convert between units of measurement, including millimetres, centimetres and kilometres, as part of their work on length and mass.

Regular practice of the 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables, along with related division facts, is essential. Children are encouraged to use Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) each evening.

Please contact the class teacher if you need your child's login details.

Science

This term in science, the children will be learning about forces. They will explore how magnets attract and repel each other, and investigate which materials are magnetic and which are not. The children will also learn about push and pull forces and how these are used to move, slow down or stop objects.

Throughout the unit, the children will take part in a range of practical investigations and experiments, helping them to develop their scientific thinking skills by making predictions, observing results and drawing conclusions.

P.E.

P.E. lessons for both 3A and 3C will take place on **Fridays**. For safety reasons, all earrings must be removed before the lesson, and children should come to school wearing the correct P.E. kit: a white T-shirt, black joggers or leggings, and their school jumper. Next term, the children will be developing their skills in basketball, learning how to play actively and work as part of a team.