



# Year 3 curriculum newsletter — Spring 2025

Our themes this term are: 'Changes over time' and 'Rivers'

## Books we will be learning about

Spring 1 – The Tin Forest – *Helen Ward*

Spring 2 – The Thames and the Tide Club – *Katya Balen*

The Selfish Giant – *Oscar Wilde*



## English

In Year 3, children will develop their diary writing skills, focusing on writing about thoughts, feelings and events in the first person. They will then build on their narrative writing skills to include a clear sequence of events, descriptive detail, and an established narrator and characters. With regards to grammar, they will focus on use of clauses and punctuation to improve the sophistication of their writing.

## Maths

Children will extend their understanding of the number system and place value to include larger numbers. They will develop the connections between multiplication and division with fractions. Pupils will also develop their ability to solve a wide range of problems, which demand efficient written and mental methods of calculation. Each term, children will study aspects of place value; addition and subtraction; multiplication and division; fractions; measurement; geometry (properties of shape) and statistics.



## Science

**Forces and Magnets** – We will learn about pushes and pulls, contact and non-contact forces such as gravity and how magnets attract and repel. We will also learn about how friction can impact speed and the suitability of various surfaces.  
**Rocks** – In this unit, we will learn about and explore various types of rocks, such as igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic—where and how they're formed and their properties.



## RE

We will start the term by looking at Judaism and thinking of the questions "What does it mean to be Jewish?". The children will learn about Abraham's story and the Shema as well as discussing the importance of promises in religion.  
In Spring 2, we will look at the Easter story and how people mark this special time.



## Art and Design Technology

In Art, children will look at how artists use tone and they will develop an understanding of shading and drawing techniques to create botanical inspired drawings.  
In Design Technology, children will be looking at seasonal foods and designing their own seasonal food.



## History – 'How have children's lives changed?'

In this unit, children will investigate the changes in children's lives through time and how children's spare time, health and work have changed. They will explore work in more detail, learning about a day in the life of a working child and the significance of Lord Shaftesbury in changing the lives of children.



## Geography – 'What are rivers and how are they used?'

In this topic, we will learn about rivers: their place in the water cycle, the name and location of major rivers and how they are used.



## Computing

**Coding** – In this topic, we will learn how to use various features of code, including timers and repeat functions. We will apply these to coding our own interactive scene.  
**Touch Typing** – This will involve learning the terminology, the names of the fingers and what is meant by the home, bottom and top rows. Children will learn how to touch type with both hands.



## Music

Minimalism: children will listen to and then compose their own minimalist piece.

Rivers: children will listen to, explore, compose and sing melodies involving the pentatonic scale and barcarolles.



## Personal, Social, Health, Economic

Children will be learning about children's rights; exploring why we have rules and the roles of local community groups, charities and recycling and an introduction to local democracy



## Your child's PE days are:

Tuesdays and Thursdays



## Important information:

### **Homework**

Homework will be set on a Friday and due in by Tuesday. Spellings will be on Google Classroom. **Sometimes there may be extra things on Google Classroom as well (activities/ learning, performance songs with the music, notices)**

### **Snacks and lunchtime**

Please provide healthy snacks for play time; no crisps, chocolate, sesame or nuts

### **Uniform**

Please see the [website](#) for correct uniform

### **Parent Hub**

Please make sure you are signed up for [ParentHub](#) – this is our preferred communication method.

### **If there is a concern**

Please arrange an appointment to see the class teacher by contacting the school office.