

Year 3 Oak and Lemon Newsletter – Summer 2



Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a wonderful half term break.

The following is an overview of our learning this half term. Please do have a look on the website at our chronology for further detail.

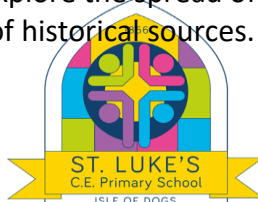
Our big question this term is ***What qualities do you need to make a difference?*** We will be making links to this throughout our teaching when appropriate, so do feel free to make links to this at home too!

In **English**, we will begin by reading a modern retelling of the poem Beowulf. We will also be focussing on this text in **Destination Reader**, allowing us to make predictions, clarify new words and make connections with other myths and legends from around the world that we will read together. We will use our learning around Beowulf to work on using shorter and longer sentences for effect and organising our ideas into paragraphs. We will continue to work on subordinate clauses and adding description. We will then apply these skills by writing our own myth with a different character and setting. In this final half term of Year 3 we will also write an acrostic poem, and a set of instructions explaining how to make the pop-up books we have created in Design and Technology.

Please continue to **read** with your child every day for at least 15 minutes and discuss what has happened in the text to ensure that your child can show understanding and develop their vocabulary. We will visit the school library on **Mondays** when your child will have the opportunity to swap their library book each week. Your child should also have their Accelerated Reader book, a levelled text which should be instructional for your child. Once your child completes their book, they should return it to school. They will then complete a short comprehension quiz and receive a new book.

In **Maths** this half term we are continuing our learning on **Time**, focusing on the 24hour clock, as well as finding and comparing durations of time. We will then move onto a geometry block of learning on **Properties of shape**. We will explore turns, angles, right angles and drawing these accurately. We will also explore horizontal, vertical, parallel and perpendicular lines. Our final maths unit of Year 3 is focused on **Mass and capacity**. We will measure, compare, add and subtract different masses and measure, compare, add and subtract different capacities.

Our **History** topic is **Anglo-Saxons and Scots**. We will learn who the Anglo-Saxons, Scots and Picts were and where they came from and lived. We will explore the spread of Christianity in Britain. We will explore archaeological evidence and a wide range of historical sources.



In **Science**, our topic is **Scientists and Inventors**. We will learn about men and women who risked their lives to find new plants, and will design our own new plant, thinking about its requirements for life. We will learn about Marie Curie and her work on radiation. We will find out how she developed the medical use of x-rays and create our own x-ray model. We will consider what plants need to grow well through exploring the life and discoveries of George Washington Carver. We will find out about William Smith and how he learnt that the fossils found inside rocks can be used to tell the age of the rocks as well as the modern-day applications of this. We will use his ideas to design our own island. Furthermore, we will learn about Inge Lehmann, the woman who discovered that the Earth's core is solid. We will have chance to investigate how images change in convex and concave mirrors and will hear about the inventions and devices that use convex and concave mirrors.

In **Music** we will explore simple accompaniments using beat and rhythm patterns and sing a score while combining sounds to create different musical textures. We will explore different types of accompaniment. We will further our understanding of pitch and read simple pitch notation. We will continue to learn to play the Recorder on **Thursday** mornings.

Our big question in **Religious Education** this term is: '**Why is Jesus inspiring to some people?**' We will explore what inspiring means and recap our learning about what we already know about Jesus. We will learn about some of Jesus' teachings and understand why he is so important to Christians.

In **Computing** we will be learning about branching databases. We will develop our understanding of what a branching database is and how to create one. We will gain an understanding of what attributes are and how to use them to sort groups of objects by using yes/no questions. We will create physical and on-screen branching databases. Finally, we will evaluate the effectiveness of branching databases and will decide what types of data should be presented as a branching database.

Please note, **P.E.** is on **Mondays**. We will begin with **Athletics**, focusing on running, jumping and throwing. We will run at different speeds, deciding the correct pace when running a long distance and develop fluency and rhythm when choosing and applying different stride patterns. We will explore different throwing techniques e.g. push/pull throw, fling & heave throw and practise throwing accurately at a target and across different distances. We will explore different techniques which will help us increase our height and distance of our jumps. We will then move onto **Cricket**. We will explore striking the ball with intent and throwing it more accurately when bowling and/or fielding. We will learn to intercept and stop the ball with consistency and return it quickly and accurately. We will choose and use batting or throwing skills to make the game hard for our opponents. **Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their PE kit. PE kit should be a plain white t-shirt, navy blue shorts or tracksuit bottoms and trainers.**

Our **DT** lessons will focus on designing, making and evaluating a pop up book. We will be exploring levers and linkages and using paper to decide on the moving mechanism we will include in our book. We will also look at different fonts, and decide the story we want our story book to tell.

Our **PSHE** topic is **Changing Me**. We will learn that in animals and humans lots of changes happen between conception and growing up, and that usually it is the female who has the baby. We will understand how babies grow and develop in the mother's uterus and what a baby needs to live and grow. We will learn that boys' and girls' bodies start to change as they grow up and identify how boys' and girls' bodies change during this growing up process. We will start to recognise stereotypical ideas about parenting and family roles.

In **French**, we will be recapping all our previous learning to date. We will also be investigating French-speaking countries and nationalities.

Homework will be distributed with new spellings to learn each week. Spellings and timetables are tested on **Tuesdays**. Please read the homework carefully to find details of this half-term's project.



There is extra optional Maths and English homework available and will be given out on **Wednesdays** in paper form. Please let us know if you would like to start receiving this.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further with a member of the team, we will be available each day after dismissing the children.

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Sheppard, Mr George, Ms Bell, Miss Bingham and Natalie.

