

St Mary's C of E Primary School Curriculum Newsletter

YEAR GROUP: 3/4

TERM: Autumn 1

Number of weeks: Seven

Topic: Savage Stone Age

Overview of Topic: "The Stone Age did not end because humans ran out of stones. It ended because it was time to re-think about how we live", a thought-provoking quote from architect, William McDonough to start our topic of Savage Stone Age. Across this first half term, we shall be exploring all things prehistoric with particular focus on that of Stone Age to Iron Age. From primitive cave art to the discovery of fire and iron, our children will have the opportunity to experience life of early man, they will learn about the perils man faced and how they over came them, we will also explore how life changed when iron was discovered. By half term, we shall be a class of historians, archaeologists and inventors ready to tackle any adventures ahead of us.

Engage: We will start by visiting Dapper's Lane, Angmering, for a Stone Age immersion day. Here we shall live the life of early man, creating shelters, starting fire, cave painting and tool making.

Develop: English: As a class we will be reading a range of high-quality texts linked to our topic Savage Stone Age. We shall particularly focus on the story of 'Ug' by Raymond Briggs and that of 'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura. We shall be building our understanding of the text and creating a wide range of writing based on it, which will include postcards, diary entries, comic strips, adverts, poetry and a creative story.

Science: We shall be learning about animals including humans, with focus on healthy eating, nutrition and the digestive system and teeth.

Art: We are going to be focusing on developing our creativity. We shall be developing our gestural drawing technique, as well as dabbling with a range of mediums including charcoal and natural pigments.

History: Stone Age to Iron Age

We will be looking at Britain during The Stone Age period through to the Bronze Age and finishing up with The Iron Age. Looking at why these periods were given these names, the differences between Neanderthals and Homo Sapiens and discussing how people would have lived. We will also be looking at archaeological/historical sites such as Star Carr and Stonehenge.

PSHE We will be continuing to follow our Jigsaw units and will be focusing on "Being me in my world". This will focus on finding our place in the world, starting with being part of our class, and school. We will also be finding our voice and encouraging our right to use it.

Freeflow We will have the opportunity to explore aspects of the Stone Age as part of their topic learning, this will be independent and is a fantastic opportunity for the children to explore their own interests. The work created will form part of our showcase at the end of the half term.

Express We will be hosting a showcase event where we will invite parents and governors into school to explore our learning. This is an excellent opportunity for the children to show what they have learnt, and how process they have undertaken to achieve that It also develops an opportunity for the children to value their work, which positively impacts their mental health.

Computing: Our focus for this half term is to learn how to code. The children will be learning how to write algorithms, as well as using different commands and variables in their code. We shall be developing our understanding of coding so that we can go on to use python to create games and programmes. We will also be developing our typing skills and our use of google classroom.

Maths: As a school we follow the White Rose scheme of work, which we adapt to meet the needs of our children. This half term we will be focused on place value, and addition and subtraction as well as times table recall.

Visits/Visitors

Dappers Lane Angmering Thursday 14th September
Book look Friday 20th October 2.45pm
Class assembly Thursday 30th November 2.30pm

Home Learning Tasks It is our expectation that you shall continue reading for 20 minutes four times a week (minimum) and that you will record this in your reading record book. Weekly spellings will be given on a Friday and the spelling test will be the following Friday. To help support the learning of times tables, we will be using TT Rockstars at home and in school. Each week, we shall celebrate a star of the week, a reader of the week, and a rockstar of the week. Spellings will be sent home, via purple mash and google classroom, as well as a paper copy, please check. This year we shall be utilising Purple Mash and Google Classroom a lot more, please ensure that you have your child's log ins, these will be sent home via their reading record books. We will be setting a home task based on the Stone Age to complete with more details to follow.