

English

We will be reading *Les Misérables* by Victor Hugo and non-fiction texts about France to support our writing. We will be writing a diary for the main character Valjean. We will also write a balanced argument for a debate linked to the themes in the book.

We will read a range of texts to help develop our reading skills and to research information about France. We will listen to a range of stories including *Madeline* by Ludwig Bemelmans.

We will be learning spellings and grammar linked to the topics and the Year 3 curriculum. We will continue to develop joined handwriting.

Please make sure your child reads for 20 minutes every night and practises the spelling homework.

Maths

We will be reviewing place value for 3-digit numbers and rounding to the nearest 100; solving additions and subtractions using place value; multiplying and dividing by 10 and counting in steps of 10, 50 and 100. We will use mental strategies to solve subtraction questions including working out the change in money problems. We will add pairs of 3-digit numbers using partitioning, learn to recognise and sort multiples of 2, 3, 4, 5, and 10. We will look at the relationship between the 4 and the 8 times-table for multiplication and division.

For fractions we will identify and order $\frac{1}{2}$ s, $\frac{1}{3}$ s, $\frac{1}{4}$ s, $\frac{1}{6}$ s, and $\frac{1}{8}$ s. We will find equivalent fractions and find fractions of amounts. In geometry we will learn to recognise right angles and know they are 90° ; understand angles are measured in degrees and use $^\circ$ as the symbol for the measurement of degrees. We will learn the names and list simple properties of 2D shapes, and about the term perimeter including measuring it on shapes.

Science and Ecology

Our science topic is Forces and Magnets. We will be comparing how things move on different surfaces. We will observe magnetic forces and how they work including how they attract or repel each other and about the two poles (N & S). We will classify which materials are attracted to magnets and which are not by testing and investigating materials around us. We will also investigate the strengths of different magnets and research the uses of magnets in our world.

In Ecology we will learn where most water is used around the school and discover why water is important, how easy it is to waste it and what can be done to reduce water use.



Topic

Our topic work this half-term will be linked to France and its location within Europe. We will be studying both political and physical maps of Europe and France to find out about the countries, cities, seas, rivers and mountains. We will be learning about important landmarks and regions of France and some of the things which it is famous for. We will make comparisons with London and the UK.

In art we will be studying the art of Henri Matisse. We will learn about some of the techniques he used especially his collage and we will also go to see *The Snail* at the Tate Modern. We will be learning about collage and producing our own pieces of work.

Curriculum Newsletter

Year Three Spring 1

'What is France famous for?'

Enrichment: London Buddhist Centre and Tate Modern Art Gallery

Homework: Given out Friday back by Wednesday.

PE: In gymnastics we will use composition ideas to form a sequence of moves and we will also develop skills for invasion games when moving with a ball.

RE

Our main focus for this half-term will be Buddhism. We will find out about the life of Prince Siddhartha and the origins of Buddhism. We will also be visiting the London Buddhist Centre in Bethnal Green.

PSHE

We will explore our feelings and which behaviours are appropriate and proportionate. We will develop an understanding of the benefits of physical exercise, and other activities on our mental wellbeing and happiness. We will learn about personal and oral hygiene and how to take care in the sun.

French

Our main aim is to learn to name body parts in French. We will engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help.

Computing

We will be developing skills in safely researching using different online platforms. The children will use publisher to create a flyer.

Music

We will continue to learn new notes on the recorder and play short pieces. We will sing songs linked to our topics and assemblies.

Suggested books to read

The Diary of a Killer Cat by Anne Fine
Diary of wimpy kid by Jeff Kinney
The Charlie Moon Collection by Shirley Hughes
Ice Palace by Robert Swindells
Flat Stanley Collection by Jeff Brown
Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl
Willa and Old Miss Annie by Berlie Doherty
More Naughty Little Sister Stories by Dorothy Edwards
All Because by Dick King Smith
The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark by Jill Tomlinson

Also non fiction books about Europe, France and Forces

Suggested places to visit

National Gallery (Trafalgar Square, Charing Cross, London WC2N 5DN) Find examples of collage in art

Science Museum (Exhibition Rd, South Kensington, London SW7 2DD) Visit the Wonderlab

Suggested websites to visit

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/france>

France Facts, National Geographic Kids

<https://www.tate.org.uk/kids/explore/who-is/who-henri-matisse>

YouTube Henri Matisse for Kids - RSE Art Appreciation