



**BLACKBURN**

**MICHAELMAS TERM**  
**YEAR 3 CURRICULUM**

**ENGLISH**

In Exciting Writing this term, the pupils will learn ways to improve and sustain the length of their writing. They will look at the use of adjectives and similes to create effect and will transfer these skills to writing poetry. They will study 'Escape from Pompeii' before writing their own version of the story, as well as producing an information text about volcanoes. This is a cross-curricular link with both Humanities and Science. Traditional Tales and play scripts will also be studied, as will the techniques used to create humorous limericks. In Reading Comprehension, they will focus on answering in full sentences, the setting of a story and features of non-fiction texts. They will look at instruction and information texts, stories set in familiar places and they will investigate different types of poems. Punctuation and Grammar will cover writing using correct punctuation, identifying nouns, adjectives and verbs, punctuating speech and the use of commas. Pupils in 3EP will complete a spelling test every Wednesday, whilst pupils in 3HS will have their test every Friday.

**MATHEMATICS**

In Mathematics, pupils will develop their mathematical skills by focusing on: place value; ordering and placing two and three-digit numbers on a number line; rounding three-digit numbers to the nearest 100; strategies for addition and subtraction, for example counting on in ones and tens and spotting number bonds or doubles; spotting patterns to help add or subtract one-digit and two-digit numbers; the calendar including days in a week, month, year and leap year; telling the time to the nearest five minutes on analogue and digital clocks; properties of 3D shapes; understanding fractions and fractions of numbers; estimating and measuring capacity in millilitres; and fortnightly Mental Mathematics tests.

**SCIENCE**

**Rocks:** In this unit pupils will discover what is under their feet. They will describe rocks and compare their properties. They will take part in a range of activities including testing the hardness of rocks, sorting rocks, finding information, drawing rocks and finding out how pebbles and sand are formed. Pupils will also understand how fossils are formed in sedimentary rocks. **Forces & Magnets:** Pupils will learn about forces in the context of pushing and pulling, and will identify different actions as pushes or pulls. They will investigate friction, by exploring the movement of a toy car over different surfaces and will work in a hands-on way to identify magnetic materials. Furthermore, they will conduct an investigation into the strength of different types of magnet

**HISTORY**

**Stone Age to Iron Age:** Pupils will learn about how the Stone Age to Bronze Age period impacted on life in Britain. They will learn about how early man survived in a harsh environment, why Skara Brae was important for understanding life in the Stone Age, how copper mining was crucial to the Bronze Age and why Stonehenge was built. Pupils will discover why Iron Age people developed hillforts and how important Druids were in Iron Age Britain.

**GEOGRAPHY**

**Extreme Earth:** Pupils will learn about the destructive powers of nature, from volcanoes and earthquakes to tsunamis and tornadoes. Through discussion and practical tasks, they will learn about how and why these natural phenomena occur, and the ways in which they affect people and the environment.



## **COMPUTING**

Programming Turtle Logo and Scratch: Pupils will learn how to create and debug algorithms. They will use the basic commands in Logo to move and draw using the turtle on screen, and then further develop algorithms using the 'repeat' command. These skills will be developed by teaching children to create algorithms in Scratch. Pupils will learn to use basic keyboard functions and shortcuts to create their own information page about themselves using headings, lower and upper case letters, different fonts, text boxes, formatting and bullet points.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Christianity and Islam: Pupils will read and discuss the stories of key religious leaders. The life of both faiths in modern day will be explored. The pupils will find out more about the ways that God is described in both religions. The term will culminate in an exploration of Christmas with a focus on messengers and sending news at this time.

## **DESIGN TECHNOLOGY**

Great British Bread Off: Pupils will gain an insight into the history of bread production, they will then investigate and evaluate existing bread products, before designing, making and evaluating their own bread product. Pupils will learn how to knead dough correctly and the technique of proving bread.

## **ART**

Autumn: Pupils will learn how to use pencil, colour, paint, print, collage and paper to create quality art work that shows progression in skills. They will also have the opportunity to explore the work of several paintings of Autumn scenes, as well as works by Matisse and Cezanne.

## **MUSIC**

Pupils will learn about percussion instruments and begin to play and perform individually and as a group. They will improvise and compose a descriptive piece of music using a variety of instruments. They will begin to understand staff notation, as they develop their technique on the keyboards. Pupils will learn new songs to enhance performances at the Harvest Festival and the Christmas Concert.

## **PSHEE**

Our Happy School: This unit focuses on creating a happy and collaborative learning environment, creating new ground rules. Pupils will learn how to work well with different people and maintain friendships. Out & About: This unit begins with a focus on enabling the pupils to become better communicators. Later it tackles various aspects of personal safety.

## **FRENCH**

Our first topic 'Moi!' includes greetings, introductions, asking how someone is, answering the register, responding to classroom instructions, numbers up to 31, ages, days and months, dates of birth and today's date. In the second half of term we learn about 'Jeux et Chansons' (Games and songs). The children will enjoy learning a variety of French songs and games.

## **PE, GAMES & SWIMMING**

In Swimming, the pupils will improve their water confidence by learning how to be safe in and around water. They will create and develop a streamlined body position in the water and learn the basic technique for front crawl. In PE and Games, the pupils will start to explore the changes that occur to their bodies when they exercise. They will explore dance movements in small groups and will begin to look at some basic attack and defence games in different sports.

