# Year 3 Autumn curriculum overview

Year Three will cover the following topics in the Autumn term. This overview shares the key learning and skills children will develop across the units in our knowledge organisers.

**RE Creation and Covenant**

Children will explore the Creation story in Genesis and what it teaches Catholics about God, the world and the dignity of every person. They will reflect on caring for our common home, giving thanks through prayer and treating others with fairness and kindness. They will also learn about Sunday as a time for Mass, rest and gratitude.

**RE Prophecy and Promise**

Children will learn how Catholics listen to God's message and prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth. They will explore Isaiah's promise and the messages received by Mary and Joseph, considering how these people showed trust in God. Learning about the readings at Mass, Advent candles, hymns and the Christmas crib will help children connect Scripture, worship and everyday acts of hope and kindness.

**Science Movement and nutrition**

Children will learn about the human skeleton, the role of bones and joints, and how muscles work together to help us move. They will compare animals with and without backbones and explore different types of skeleton. They will also learn why our bodies need a balanced diet, including the roles of nutrients, water and fibre, while developing their observation, classification and explanation skills.

**Science Forces and magnets**

Children will explore how forces can start, stop or change movement and how friction affects objects moving across different surfaces. They will learn that magnets can act without touching an object, identify magnetic materials and explore how magnetic poles attract or repel. Children will practise asking questions, making predictions and using observations to explain the effects and everyday uses of forces.

**History The Stone Age Bronze Age and Iron Age**

Children will investigate how life changed from the Stone Age to the Iron Age, including developments in farming, settlements, materials and trade. They will learn about Skara Brae, tribes and hill forts, and use timelines to place events in order. By exploring archaeological evidence, asking questions and comparing periods, children will make deductions and explain which period they would have preferred to live in.

**Geography Why do people live near volcanoes**

Children will explore the layers of the Earth and how moving tectonic plates are linked to mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes. They will compare different volcanoes and use maps to locate areas of volcanic and earthquake activity. They will consider both the dangers and benefits of living near volcanoes, developing their ability to investigate, compare information and explain people's choices.

**French Greetings with puppets**

Children will learn to greet others, introduce themselves, ask someone's name and say how they are feeling in French. They will practise short conversations using puppets, listen carefully and develop clear pronunciation. They will also discover how greetings change according to the time of day and recognise familiar words and phrases in writing.

**French Colours size and shape**

Children will learn French words for colours, shapes and sizes and use them to build simple descriptions. They will explore how French word order differs from English, placing colour words after the noun and size words before it. Through listening, speaking, reading and writing, children will practise asking and answering simple questions and using polite phrases such as "please" and "thank you".

**Computing Networks**

Children will learn how devices connect to form networks and how information, photographs, music and videos can be shared between them. They will explore the roles of routers, servers and wireless connections, and learn what happens when someone requests a website. This unit will build their understanding of the internet and cloud storage, alongside the vocabulary needed to explain how digital systems work.

**Computing Programming with Scratch**

Children will explore Scratch, using colourful coding blocks to create simple animations. They will learn about sprites, backdrops and the stage, then combine instructions to control movement, appearance and sound. By arranging instructions in a sequence and using loops to repeat actions, children will develop their logical thinking and problem-solving skills as they test and improve their programs.

**Art Developing drawing skills**

Children will develop their drawing skills by looking closely at objects and using simple shapes to begin a sketch. They will practise different pencil grips and learn how changing pressure creates lighter and darker tones. They will explore artists' work and digital art, developing their ability to notice detail, interpret artwork and evaluate and improve their own drawings.

**Music Mountains**

Children will explore how music can represent the shape and movement of mountains. They will learn about pitch, melody and dynamics, recognising when notes move by steps, leaps or slides, or stay at the same pitch. Children will use these ideas to create and record musical compositions, developing their listening, performing and composing skills through practice and improvement.

**Music Reading rhythms and patterns and layers**

Children will learn to recognise and use simple musical notation, including crotchets, paired quavers, minims and crotchet rests. They will explore how notes and silences fit into four-beat patterns and practise keeping a steady pulse. Using body percussion and rhythm activities, children will develop their ability to listen, read, create and perform patterns with increasing confidence.

**Design and technology Product packaging**

Children will explore how packaging is designed for a purpose and how flat nets can be folded into three-dimensional structures. They will learn about tabs, accurate construction and ways to strengthen packaging, including ribbing and reinforcement. Children will plan, make and evaluate their designs, consider materials that can be reused or recycled, and use feedback to suggest improvements.

**PSHE Being Me in My World**

Children will reflect on their strengths and achievements, set personal goals and explore their rights and responsibilities within the class. They will learn how choices have consequences and how their behaviour can affect others. Through discussion and reflection, children will practise recognising feelings, listening to different viewpoints and working cooperatively, helping everyone feel valued and included in our school community.

**PSHE Celebrating Difference**

Children will explore how families are different and why belonging, care and respect matter. They will consider how words can affect people's feelings, learn ways to manage disagreements and use the "solve it together" approach. Children will also discuss how to seek adult help if they witness bullying, support others and give and receive compliments, developing empathy and respectful relationships.