



# Rocks, Relics and Rumbles



Year 3  
Spring Term - 2023

## **English**

This half term we will be using the books *Journey to the Centre of the Earth* by Sarah Courtauld and *Escape from Pompeii* by Christina Balit in our Guided Reading sessions and as hooks into a range of pieces of writing across different genres. We will be using a range of strategies to engage pupils in the stories, such as drama and hot seating.

The children will be writing warning stories, biographies, poetry and newspaper reports. We will be recapping and extending their knowledge of effective poetic and story writing, as well as developing the children's understanding of the features of new, unfamiliar text types.

## **Maths:**

This term we will continue our learning around multiplication and division, focussing on 2-digit and 3-digit numbers. We will be using a range of manipulatives to help children learn the formal techniques.

We will then be moving on to length and perimeter, before moving onto fractions. Building on their knowledge of fractions from KS1, we will be exploring equivalent fractions, as well as ordering them. Finally, we will cover mass and capacity using practical resources.

In our additional fluency sessions, the children will be working on their arithmetic and the 3- and 6-times tables.

## **Art and D&T:**

This term, the children will be looking at the genre of figure drawing. They will study the figure drawings and urban landscapes of the artist LS Lowry and create artwork in his style. Additionally, they will explore artistic techniques used in sketching, printmaking and sculpture.

In D&T, the children will learn about cam mechanisms. They will experiment with different shaped cams before designing, making and evaluating a child's automaton toy.

## **PE**

The topics for this term in PE are dance, netball, fundamentals and football. The children will develop their physical, social, emotional and thinking skills in all units. In netball and football, they will work on their ball skills, as well as learn to think tactically. In dance and fundamentals lessons, they will improve their counting and rhythm, as well as the fundamental skills of balancing, running, jumping, hopping and skipping.

## **Science:**

In Science this term, the children will learn about contact and non-contact forces, including friction and magnetism. They will investigate frictional and magnetic forces, and identify parts of a magnet and magnetic materials.

## **Geography:**

This term, Year 3 will learn about the features and characteristics of Earth's layers, including a detailed exploration of volcanic, tectonic and seismic activity. They will begin by exploring what makes up the Earth before moving onto learning about volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis.

## **History**

In history, the children will learn about the history of palaeontology and geology, focussing on Mary Anning in particular. They will also explore the causes of the eruption of Mount Vesuvius, and its effects on Pompeii.

## **RE:**

This term, year 3 will be learning about Islam: where it originated, the special places linked to Islam and key festivals and celebrations in the Muslim calendar.

## **Ideas for home learning:**

- Use the KIRF document that your child has brought home to practise the key Maths skills for each half term.
- Use TTRockstars and Spelling Shed to reinforce the times tables and spellings your children are learning in school.
- Create a model of the layers of the Earth using a range of materials. Label each layer and write a short description about each layer's features.
- Make an information poster about Mary Anning, the famous fossil collector. Include images and interesting facts. Share your poster with a family member once it is complete.
- Imagine that you have just experienced an earthquake. Write a short story about what happened. Use topic vocabulary to describe the strength of the earthquake, such as tremor, epicentre, magnitude and seismic wave.