



MERCHANT TAYLORS'
Prep

MTP Year 3 curriculum

ENGLISH

Autumn Term

This term the pupils learn to plan written compositions more effectively and develop their understanding and use of different story settings. They also concentrate on written dialogue and descriptive work. They compare prose and play scripts as well as studying non-chronological reports.

The pupils also learn spelling words which will be tested weekly, and identify and correct more of their own errors. Work continues on basic joins in handwriting, moving towards improved fluency and consistency. The use of a dictionary and thesaurus will be practised regularly.

Regular reading practice at home is invaluable and your son is expected to read (and discuss what he has read) for thirty minutes each evening. Where possible, we encourage pupils to read a short section of their book out loud to an adult who can question them on their understanding.

Spring Term

Through the use of fiction the pupils investigate the styles and voices of different story types, identify typical story themes and describe and sequence key incidents in a story in a variety of ways. The pupils discuss the main and recurring characters in a story. The pupils also plan main points as a structure for story writing, write story plans and write their own myths and legends. In order to extend pupils' vocabulary, we continue our weekly Vocabulary Ninja lessons and encourage pupils to make use of the words in their independent writing. The pupils also discuss the purpose of note making and explore ways of writing ideas.

We also focus on developing the pupils' reading comprehension skills through regular practice.

Spellings, reading and handwriting continue throughout the term. Please continue to read with your son for 30 minutes each evening and sign the Reading Record. We will continue to encourage the pupils to complete Accelerated Reader quizzes on books read.

Summer Term

In writing, we focus on prefixes and suffixes, e.g. using suffixes for verbs (help, helping, helped) and using a suffix to change an adjective into a noun e.g. happy becoming happiness. We investigate the use of 'a' and 'an' and accurate use of verb tenses. We continue to broaden the pupils' knowledge of writing genre to include instructions, diary entries and newspaper reports. We continue to focus on developing reading skills through comprehension activities.



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MATHEMATICS

Autumn Term

We follow the Inspire Maths scheme and will study the following units of work: numbers to 10,000, number patterns, adding and subtracting numbers to 10,000, word problems and an introduction to multiplication. Much emphasis is placed on developing mental calculations, so regular practice of number facts including multiplication tables should be completed as part of homework.

Spring Term

This term we concentrate on multiplication and the related division facts. Pupils continue to learn their tables through IXL, Times Tables Rockstars and class work along with your support at home. They are expected to learn these facts (and the related division facts) and recall them quickly and accurately. We also focus on relating multiplication and division facts to problem solving using bar model drawings.

Summer Term

In the first part of term, the pupils focus on multiplication and division word problems using bar models. They also further develop their mental calculations for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They also revise the topics we have covered so far in preparation for the examinations. After half term, the pupils learn about fractions and money.



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SCIENCE

Autumn Term

Our first topic of study in Year 3 is forces, which includes looking at friction. We then move onto magnetism and compare frictional and magnetic forces. Later in the term we look at the processes common to all living things and how they are displayed differently by plants and animals.

We also begin to look at practical scientific skills, such as taking measurements and recording them in a systematic way using tables and graphs.

Spring Term

In the spring Year 3 learn about light. This includes looking at both shadows and reflection as well as how we see objects. Later in the term, pupils study aspects of human biology including the role of the skeleton and major organs, we also compare and contrast humans with other animals. Practical science and the systematic gathering and recording of data will continue to feature this term.

Summer Term

In the summer pupils learn about different types of rocks and soils, and their characteristics. Pupils also learn about the formation of fossils. Later, they learn about plants, including the different parts of plants and their roles. Pupils also investigate the growth of plants in different conditions. Once again, pupils will undertake plenty of practical tasks alongside the theoretical work.



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MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Autumn Term

Pupils start the course *Le français, c'est super* which comprises interactive and written exercises. The topics covered this term include greetings, classroom instructions and numbers. The written aspects of the language will be developed gradually alongside exploring the language through the use of the website linguscope.com.

Spring Term

In French, pupils will look at the topics of the days of the week, colours, dates, numbers 1-31 and the festival of Mardi Gras.

Summer Term

In French, the pupils study the topics of the days of the week, sport and family.



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GEOGRAPHY

Autumn Term

A study of the United Kingdom and Europe is undertaken with the introduction of geographical terms, plans and maps as well as comparing and contrasting a series of locations.

Spring Term

Our topic this term is Madagascar. We locate Madagascar on a world map and find out about its landscapes, climate and weather, the animals that live there, its settlements and the resources that it has to trade.

Summer Term

Our topic this term is rainforests and deserts. We look first at the rainforest environment, the climate that creates it and the impact humans are having on it. In the second half of the term we investigate deserts, learning about where deserts are in the world and how they are formed, how humans use deserts, and the people that live there.



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HISTORY

Autumn Term

We study the way of life of people, and their beliefs, in ancient Egypt. The pupils develop an understanding of the Egyptian society. They consider the importance of archaeological evidence, considering how we know about what life was like thousands of years ago. They learn the key historical terms of chronology and inference, and ask historical questions about sources of evidence.

Spring Term

This term, the pupils study the impact of the Romans on Britain. They discover how and why the Roman Empire grew so big and also investigate the impact and significance of the Roman invasions and rule of Britain. This is supported by our visit to Verulamium Museum in St Albans, where the pupils get to see and handle Roman artefacts. Throughout this term pupils, continue to develop the skill of drawing inferences from evidence. The content of this term's history lessons is supported by, and supportive of, the pupils' work in Latin lessons.

Summer Term

We learn about the life of Queen Victoria and life in Victorian Britain, identifying the differences between then and now. We explore the lives of Victorian people, with a specific focus on the lives of children, at school and at play. The pupils should now be confident at making inferences based on their observations. They begin to use these ideas to help them answer historical questions.

LATIN

Autumn Term

Pupils are introduced to the Latin language through the popular cartoon-based *Minimus* course. They study nouns and adjectives in both Latin and English. The cultural content is a real Roman family who lived in Vindolanda Fort, near Hadrian's Wall.

Spring Term

Using *Minimus*, the pupils continue to develop their general language skills, focusing on verbs. They also learn about slavery. The pupils bury some objects to carry out some experimental archaeology.

Summer Term

The pupils study chapters five (Romans and Britons) and six (Off to Town) of *Minimus*.



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RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Autumn Term

As part of an understanding of world religions, this term's focus is on Christianity.

Spring Term

As part of an understanding of world religions, this term's focus is on Hinduism.

Summer Term

As part of an understanding of world religions, this term's focus will be on Islam.

ART & DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Autumn Term

The pupils learn about colour mixing theory and painting techniques to produce artwork inspired by the natural world including an imagined butterfly in flight, and a painting inspired by the fauvist art movement.

Spring Term

The pupils learn more about colour mixing theory through working on a painting inspired by the pointillist Art movement. We then move on to our design and technology project brief to design and construct a recycled marble run in groups.

Summer Term

This term the pupils investigate gravity and use their design and construction skills to create marble runs using recycled materials.



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DRAMA

Autumn Term

This term the pupils participate in a variety of drama workshop games and exercises to develop their stage craft and confidence.

Spring Term

This term the pupils rehearse for the Year 3 and 4 production to be performed in The Lalani New Barn Theatre in February. After half-term, we experiment with dramatic text and exploring the use of play scripts.

Summer Term

The pupils continue to explore the power of traditional storytelling through folk tales and fairy stories as well working more closely with play scripts and dramatic text. There is particular emphasis on mime, image theatre (tableaux) and the various styles of narration.

COMPUTING

Autumn Term

The pupils develop their understanding of e-safety and how search engines and the internet works. They will be learning search techniques to improve their research methods. The pupils will start to identify which software is the best to create a poster for history and do some photo manipulation and editing.

Spring Term

This term the pupils are introduced to programming using Scratch 3. The pupils also collect data and analyse it digitally.

Summer Term

This term the pupils are introduced to spreadsheets and databases, using Excel. The pupils also use different databases to search information. They continue to develop their multimedia skills, using the iPads to create eBooks.



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MUSIC

Autumn Term

Pupils spend the first half of term developing their pulse and rhythm skills alongside their singing voices. They explore: singing songs expressively and performing actions confidently in time to the music; walking, moving and clapping to a steady beat at different speeds; and simple rhythmic values and their subdivisions, and how to clap these accurately.

Pupils spend the second half of term learning traditional Christmas carols in preparation for the School Carol Service.

Spring Term

During the first half of term, pupils learn the songs for the Year 3 and 4 Production.

After half-term, pupils explore the instruments of the orchestra, developing their understanding of: the four main instrumental families and the instruments that make these up; what different instruments look like, how they are constructed, and the effect this has on the sounds they make; and how to aurally identify instruments by the sounds they make.

Summer Term

Pupils spend the first half of the summer term singing traditional songs and chants. As well as revisiting the concepts covered in the autumn term, this unit allows them to extend their understanding of: the links between words and rhythms; composing simple song accompaniments using known rhythmic values; and the origins and historical/social context of traditional songs from around the British Isles.

During the second half of term, pupils further develop their aural skills and understanding of musical notation through a variety of activities based around the song Do Re Mi. New skills and knowledge they are introduced to include: aspects of simple pitch notation; playing simple phrases on tuned percussion (e.g. a glockenspiel); and improvisation, and aural identification of phrases.



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WELLBEING and RSE

Autumn Term

Pupils begin the year by looking at what makes a family and the features of family life. They go on to discuss personal boundaries, safely responding to others and the impact of hurtful behaviour and end the term by thinking about recognising respectful behaviour and the importance of self-respect courtesy and being polite.

Spring Term

The pupils learn about the value of rules and laws, and rights, freedoms and responsibilities in a community. They consider how the internet is used and discuss ways to assess information online. Last, they consider different jobs and skills that might be required to fulfil a job as well as thinking about job stereotypes and how to set personal goals.

Summer Term

The summer term starts with discussions on healthy choices and habits before we move onto thinking about what affects feelings and how to express our feelings. The pupils then consider their personal strengths and achievements before considering how to deal with setbacks. We end the year with looking at risks and hazards and how to be safe in our local environment as well as unfamiliar places.



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PHYSICAL EDUCATION (P.E.) AND GAMES

Important Note (all terms):

Pupils will need **football boots** (Autumn/Spring) AND **astro-trainers** as well as having their **indoor footwear** available in their P.E. bag. P.E. bags should always be brought into school on Monday morning and taken home to wash on Friday afternoon. This ensures that pupils always have correct kit whatever the weather.

Autumn Term

In P.E. the pupils further develop their hockey skills, with a focus on reverse-stick control, spatial awareness and small-sided game development.

In Games pupils play football with an emphasis on development and teamwork.

Spring Term

In P.E. lessons the pupils go swimming at Bushey Grove pool. They focus on improving their technique in both prone and supine strokes. An additional lane is used to further develop the more able swimmers with a focus on breathing and stamina.

Pupils require **swimming trunks** (NOT swim shorts) and a **towel** each week plus a **waterproof bag for wet kit**. Goggles are optional, but your son must be able to put them on and resize them himself. Full details can be found in the Parent Handbook.

In Games the pupils learn the principles and related skills of rugby with a focus on ball handling and working as a team. There is a focus on tag-rugby and an introduction to contact.

Summer Term

P.E. lessons continue to be focused on swimming. We further develop the four main strokes of front crawl, back stroke, breaststroke, and butterfly as well as water skills and personal survival.

In Games the pupils develop their cricket skills in relation to bowling, batting and fielding. Pupils also develop the skills required to take part in running, jumping and throwing events for athletics, ahead of Sports Day. After Sports Day pupils take part in summer sports such as rounders and ultimate frisbee.



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FURTHER INFORMATION

EXAMINATIONS

Year 3 pupils have formal examinations in English and Mathematics in late May. Revision guidance will be provided in the first week of the Summer Term.

PARENTAL CONSULTATIONS

You will have the opportunity to meet your son's form teacher in person in October and in March. In the meantime, should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your son's form teacher via the office - either email or telephone them.

HOMEWORK

Homework will be set on Seesaw.

Document changelog

Date	Note
2023-09-10	Music and Science updated
2023-06-13	Geography and Wellbeing updated
2022-09-09	Science updated
2022-09-01	Created