



St. Catherine's
RC Primary School

Key Information For Year 3

September 2025

Be who God wants you to be and so set the world on fire



0161 445 6359

admin@st-catherines.manchester.sch.uk

www.st-catherines.manchester.sch.uk

www.facebook.com/stcatherinesrcprimary

Welcome to Year 3!



This presentation will provide key information regarding your child's new year group. We hope you will find this useful and please know that we are here to answer any questions you may have too.

'Be who God wants you to be and so set the world on fire' – Saint Catherine of Siena



Meet The Team



Teachers:

Miss Jones and Mrs Jones: Class 7

Miss Deaville: Class 8

Teaching Assistants working within our year group: Mrs Thomson, Mrs Santos and Mr Rodriguez

Note: teaching assistants may be working within other year groups too, as well as with specific individual/groups of pupils.

We are always happy to answer any questions you may have.

If you wish to speak to your child's class teacher, please contact the office on 0161 445 6359 or admin@st-catherines.manchester.sch.uk

Expectations

We have high expectations and aspirations for all of our children and expect them to show our school's core values throughout the school day, as well as outside of school.

We expect our children to arrive at school on time with a positive attitude to learning, trying their best in all aspects of their work. We aim to inspire them to 'set the world on fire' by being who God wants them to be.



Our Core Values

These core values have been drawn up by our Chaplaincy Team in consultation with the whole school community. We want all our children to demonstrate:

Love

Faith

Respect

Perseverance

Compassion

Inspiration



Rights Respecting School



In Rights Respecting Schools, children's rights are promoted and realised, adults and children work towards this goal together.

Being a Rights Respecting school develops the 'whole self' of each child and underpins everything else we do in school.



Duty bearers are the adults and staff responsible for upholding the 42 articles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child, (UNCRC) which are a set of rights for children.

These duty bearers have an obligation to ensure these rights are respected and promoted, embedding them into the school's ethos, policies, and everyday practices.

You may have seen some of the articles on display in and around school!



Class Charters



Every class has a Class Charter.

This is a class agreement, where certain articles have been chosen by children as guidelines towards expectations for the year.



Our Curriculum

Long Term Curriculum Map, Year Group: 3

Subject	AUTUMN		SPRING		SUMMER	
Core Value	Respect	Love	Perseverance	Faith	Compassion	Inspiration
Theme Days/Weeks	Rights Respecting Fortnight International Day Black History Month Remembrance Day Core Values: Respect and Love Advent		STEM Day (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) Core Values: Perseverance and Faith Children's Mental Health Day Safer Internet Day Storytelling Week & World Book Day Holy Week		Core Values: Compassion and Inspiration Pentecost Party Healthy Schools Week Sports Day	
Religion	Creation and Covenant	Prophecy and Promise	Galilee to Jerusalem	Desert to Garden	To the ends of the Earth	
Other Faiths	Other Faiths Week: Hinduism				Other Faiths Week: TBC	
Reading	The Sea Book by Charlotte Milner Genre - Information	The Morning I Met a Whale by Michael Morpurgo Genre - Fiction: adventure, Information	The Iron Man by Ted Hughes Genre - Fiction: fantasy	Ice Palace by Robert Swindells Genre - Fiction: adventure	Egyptian Cinderella by Shirley Climo, Genre - Recount, Fiction: historical/ traditional tale	Usborne Illustrated Atlas of Britain and Ireland by Struan Reid, Up (film clip, Disney) Genre - Information
Writing	Seal Surfer by Michael Foreman Outcome - Non-Fiction Recount: letter in role	Winter's Child by Graham Baker-Smith Outcome - Fiction: Fantasy	Stone Age Boy by Satoshi Kitamura Outcome - Fiction Historical Narrative	Big Blue Whale by Nicola Davies Outcome - Non-fiction Persuasion: leaflet	Journey by Aaron Becker Outcome - Fiction: Adventure story	Zeraffa Giraffa by Diane Hoffmeyer Outcome - Non-fiction Persuasion: Guide

Our Curriculum

Subject	AUTUMN		SPRING		SUMMER	
Maths	Place Value Addition and subtraction Multiplication and division		Multiplication and division Length and Perimeter Fractions Mass and Capacity		Fractions Money Time Property of shapes Statistics	
Science	Movement and nutrition	Forces and magnets	Rocks and soils	Light and shadows	Plant reproduction	Does hand span affect grip strength?
History and Geography	An Age as Old as Time (Stone Age to Iron Age) Big Question: Who first lived in Britain?		Geography Local Study: Didsbury Big Question: What is the oldest building in Didsbury?	(Ancient Egypt) Big Question: What do the pyramids tell us about the Egyptians?	Shake, Rattle and Roll (Volcanoes - Pompeii) Big Question: What makes the Earth angry?	(The Greeks) Big Question:
PSHE and RHE	Created and Loved by God "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." (Proverbs 4:23) Respectful Relationships Keeping safe Health Education Health and prevention Healthy eating Physical health and fitness Mental wellbeing Internet safety and harms		Created to Love Others "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love." (1 Corinthians 16:14) Families and People who care for me Caring friendships Respectful relationships Keeping safe Mental wellbeing Online Relationships Internet safety and harms Drugs, alcohol and tobacco Health and prevention Basic first aid		Created to Live in Community "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." (Proverbs 4:23) Respectful relationships Belonging to a community	

Our Curriculum

Subject	AUTUMN		SPRING		SUMMER	
PE (indoor)	Gymnastics	Dance	Dance	Yoga	Fitness	Gymnastics
PE (outdoor)	Basic skills Ball skills	Invasion Tag rugby	Invasion Netball	Net/wall Tennis	Striking and fielding Cricket	Athletics
Music	Ukulele Sing-Up and charanga	Ukulele Sing-Up and charanga	Percussion Sing-Up and charanga	percussion Sing-Up and charanga	Percussion Sing-Up and charanga	Time Signatures Focus on different composers and their works Sing-Up and charanga
Computing	Emails	Introduction to Scratch	Prediction & debugging	Altering media	Inside a computer	Publishing content online
MFL	Numbers 1-31, colours, letters of the alphabet in Spanish		Spanish days of the week, months of the year, saying the date in Spanish and please and thank you in Spanish		Animals and speaking and writing about themselves	
Art	Drawing		Collage and painting		Making / 3D	
DT	Structure- Shell structures		Mechanical- Levers and linkages		Textiles - 2D shape to 3D project	

Year 3 Topics

At St. Catherine's, our Geography and History lessons combine sticky knowledge and conceptual understanding together into specific topics to help to make learning as purposeful and enjoyable as possible.

In Year 3, our topics are:

- An Age as Old as Time (Stone Age to Iron Age)
- Local Study: Didsbury
- Ancient Egypt
- Shake, Rattle and Roll (Volcanoes – Pompeii)
- The Greeks

For each unit of learning, we start with a 'launch day'. This is a fun and exciting way to engage children in their new learning. You may sometimes receive emails about this as it may involve dressing up, food tasting, school trips, visits, etc.

School Uniform

- Burgundy jumpers and cardigans with school logo on
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Black school shoes (not trainers) to be worn
- No jewellery, including earrings
- Juniors can wear shirt and tie (optional)
- Shoulder-length hair and longer must be tied up
- Plain accessories
- P.E. kits should be worn on P.E. days (see next slide)

It is important that the correct uniform, including school shoes, is worn to school each day.

****Please label all items of clothing and all belongings****

Uniform is available from MCS Stores or Goodies Online, via the school website. If you are struggling to afford school uniform, please speak to a member of our admin team or a senior leader to see how we can help.

School Uniform

P.E. Kit:

- White plain t-shirt (t-shirt with school logo available), burgundy shorts, school jumper/cardigan, trainers
- Please ensure all items of clothing are labelled.
- In colder weather, children can wear **PLAIN** black/navy jogging bottoms/leggings with their school jumper or cardigan instead of burgundy shorts.
- **No other items should be worn as part of the school P.E. kit**

P.E. will take place twice a week, usually with one indoor and one outdoor session.

P.E. days generally change every half-term and you will be informed of changes via the Parent Weekly Update.

Year 3 P.E. days this half-term: Monday and Tuesday.
Children must wear their school P.E. kit into school on these days

Drop-Off and Pick-Up

We ask that children say goodbye to their parents and then walk into their classrooms independently. Children must be **in class** by 8.45am.

If your child arrives to school after this time, you must take them to the school office so that they can be registered.

Children should be picked up from the playground at 3.15pm.

Punctuality is very important and learning starts straight away so please ensure your child arrives to school on time.

Drop-off time: 8.35-8.45am

Pick-up time: 3.15pm

Healthy Schools

- Water bottles should be brought into class each morning (plain, unflavoured water in a reusable water bottle) and taken home at the end of each day
- Healthy snacks: must be fruit or vegetables or breadsticks (not fruit bars, fruit winders, cereal bars etc)
- In Early Years and KS1, a healthy snack is provided for all children
- We encourage children to eat healthy lunches
- Birthdays – we ask that you please do not send children in with sweets/cakes etc (we will not be able to give them out to children if you do). A class game or book would be greatly appreciated instead if you wish to make a donation.
- We also have healthy school meals provided through Dolce.

Reading in Year 3

Key Stage Reading Guidance

Reading Record Guidance: Key Stage Two

We encourage children to record their reading in their reading records themselves in KS2.

When your child records what they have read, they should include the following:

- ✓ The date they have read on.
- ✓ The name of the book they have read.
- ✓ The pages that they have read that day.
- ✓ A couple of sentences about what they have read that day.

- Their reading records will be checked by an adult on each week to ensure that they have completed the above. Reading records and current reading books should be brought into school everyday.
- Please also encourage your child to read for pleasure. If they choose to read a school or public library book, they may also record this.

‘Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.’

Home Reading

Reading at home is vitally important.

Your child should read at least five times a week at home to an adult.

During this time, please question them on what they have read and the bookmarks given to your child at the start of year can be used for guidance upon what to ask.

Children are to change their books roughly once a week, however this depends on the length of the book.

‘I do believe something very magical can happen when you read a book.’

Spellings in Year 3

Below is an overview of the spelling scheme for Year 3

Essential Spelling and Word Knowledge: a **new** spelling programme that enables pupils to understand the patterns in the English language using a combination of morphology, etymology and application of phonological rules.

It picks up where ELS phonics leaves off and builds upon the skills and knowledge the children have already developed.

Essential Spelling and Word Knowledge is delivered three times per week for 20 minutes, which sessions including explicit teaching, followed by practice or dictated writing. Its structure means that children build on the routines and learning strategies already embedded and in addition builds on their phonics code, reinforcing how to apply that knowledge to spelling.

Assessments are built into the programme, so there will no longer have separate spellings 'tests' each week. These assessments review and reinforce earlier teaching, helping build confidence in applying phonics to spelling.

Progression

Year 3 / Primary 4

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Week 1	Introduction: jump, move	Suffix: -ous	Suffix: -th	Suffixes: -ion, -ian	Prefixes: in-, im-, il-, ir-	cycle
Week 2	Suffix: -ly	Suffix: -ation	Prefixes: re-, auto-, anti-	ough letter string	hap	eigh, ei, ey, aigh letter strings
Week 3	busy	medic	Prefixes: mis-, dis-, dif-	ear letter string	Possessive plurals	augh letter string
Week 4	Suffix: -ward	history	Prefix: inter-	ere letter string	letter y as /i/	Homophones
Week 5	possess	vary	quest	Prefixes: sub-, super-, sur-	ou letter string	extreme
Week 6	Plurals	Suffix: -ure	press		cert	

Homework

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Home Reading	After Christmas, children can choose a storybook to read at home with an adult to promote reading for pleasure.	Five times a week (at least 10 minutes per time) It is also important that children read for pleasure; this may include a library book from school or other reading. You may also enjoy a bedtime story or read often to your children. Listening to an adult read is just as valuable to your child as them reading to you.						
Homework	No homework	One piece a week (based on curriculum learning) - <i>from January</i>	One piece a week (based on curriculum learning)	One piece a week (based on curriculum learning)	One piece a week (based on curriculum learning)	Two pieces a week sent home once a week (based on curriculum learning)	Two pieces a week sent home once a week (based on curriculum learning)	Plus, a 'five in five' reading challenge
Homework given out		Wednesday	Friday	Friday	Friday	Friday	Friday	Friday
Homework collected in		Monday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday
Spellings		Phonics task (from November) <i>Half-termly overview of phonics sounds taught will be sent to parents too for further practice and consolidation at home.</i>	Half-termly spelling overviews are sent out to parents to show spelling patterns being learnt in school. We ask that children then practise these spelling rules further at home to consolidate their knowledge.					
Times Tables		n/a	n/a	Times Tables Rockstars	Times Tables Rockstars	Times Tables Rockstars	Times Tables Rockstars	Times Tables Rockstars

Rewards and Sanctions

Core value points:

Children can earn 5 or 10 core value points and can also be placed 'on the shining light' for wonderful learning, behaviour, attitude, showing of core values, etc (this is also equivalent to 15 core value points).

Core Value Point group totals are celebrated each week and term in school.

Negative behaviour can result in moving down the candle until the child has reflected and improved their behaviour. If a more serious incident takes place, this may be recorded as a 'red card event' and parents/carers will be informed.

Children who have moved down the candle several times over a period of time, or have received more serious sanctions, will be supported to reflect more closely on their behaviour and how they can make changes moving forward. Behaviour plans will also be used to support children in improving their behaviour where we have seen frequent instances of behaviour that does not meet our school standards.

Attendance and Punctuality

Going to school regularly is important to your child's future. You are legally responsible for making sure they attend every day.

Holidays during school time are not permitted.

The Local Authority are likely to take statutory action regarding any unauthorised absences, including for term-time holidays (see national attendance changes from August 2024).

Children who miss school frequently can fall behind.

Children who miss school frequently can have difficulties with friendship groups.

When a child misses 10 days from school, they have missed out on 5% of their education that school year. Our attendance target is 97%.

We do our absolute best to provide your children with a fantastic education and an enjoyable time in school but we can only do this if your child is present.

Holy Communion



Year 3 is a very special year as children embark on their spiritual journey; this begins with their First Forgiveness and culminates with their First Holy Communion.

Medical and Health Information

It is important we are kept up to date with any medical information relating to your child.

Asthma

Your child will need a new asthma plan for this year.
Please email your asthma plan to the school office ASAP.

Allergies

Please remember we are a nut free school.
We have some children with severe allergies.

If your child has any allergies or health concerns that we are not already aware of, please contact the school office ASAP.



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

We have two special educational needs and disabilities coordinators (SENDCO) in school:

Mrs McCormick (Nursery, Reception and Year 1)

Ms Rosario (Years 2-6)

If you have concerns regarding your child's progress or think they may have a special educational need or disability, please speak to your child's class teacher or alternatively, email the school office to request a call or meeting with one of our SENDCOs.

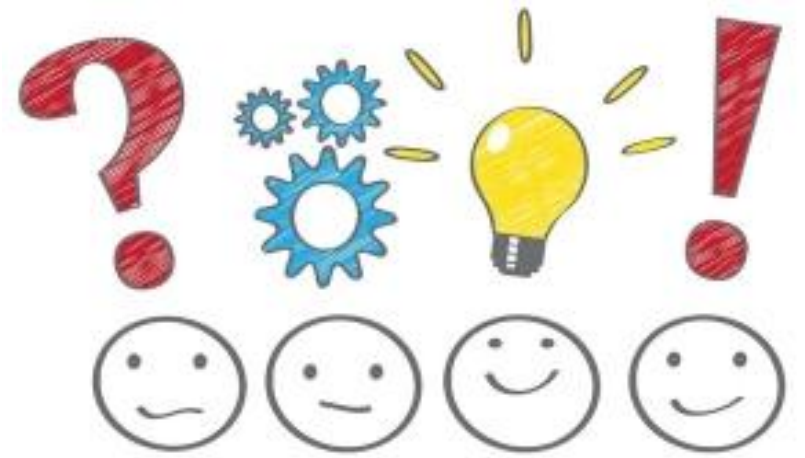
Communication

Each Friday, a 'Parent Weekly Update' is sent out with key school information, including year group information. This is our key method of communication with parents so please do ensure you read it each week. We will occasionally send out other emails to parents where required.

If parents and carers need to make contact with class teachers, this should be through emailing the school office: admin@st-catherines.manchester.sch.uk

(parents and carers are not permitted to directly email class teachers or leaders unless specific approval has been given by the Headteacher, which is only in exceptional circumstances)

Any Questions?



We hope that we will have answered many of the questions you may have had but please know we are always here to help. If you have any further questions, please email the school office and a member of staff will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

School office email:
admin@st-catherines.manchester.sch.uk



St. Catherine's
RC Primary School

Thank you

Be who God wants you to be and so set the world on fire

0161 445 6359

admin@st-catherines.manchester.sch.uk

www.st-catherines.manchester.sch.uk

www.facebook.com/stcatherinesrcprimary