Year 3 – 'Why do people live near Volcanoes?' Curriculum Information Autumn (2nd half) 2025

English

- Using the book Escape from Pompeii by Christina Balit, we will learn about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and how it affected the people of Pompeii.
- We will use the story to help us plan and write a newspaper report, including key features such as headlines, introductions, quotes and concluding sentences. We will explore how to use adverbials of time and place, conjunctions, and inverted commas for speech to make our writing clear and engaging.
- In spelling, we will focus on using prefixes (dis-, un-, re-) and suffixes (-ly, -ful, -ness) to change word meanings and forms.
- Through this unit, we will develop our ability to write in the past tense, organise our ideas into paragraphs, and inform our readers with accurate and interesting details about real historical events.

Mathematics

- Our topic of learning will be addition and subtraction before moving on to multiplication and division. We will learn how to cross ten in both adding and subtracting. We will continue to use the column method.
- We will be learning to multiply and divide using our 3, 4 and 8 times tables as well as learn various mental and written methods to work out word problems.

Science

- In Science, we are learning about rocks and soils as well as how to compare and group different types of rocks based on their appearance and properties.
- We will explore how fossils are formed when living things become trapped within rock and learn about the fossilisation process.
- We will investigate how soils are made from rocks and organic matter, discovering how they differ from one another.
- Through practical investigations and observations, we will develop our understanding of how **rocks are formed, change, and used in everyday life.**

Our topic: Why do people live near volcanoes?

Skills for Life

- We will be learning about relationships, consent and being responsible. Through these lessons, we will learn about keeping secrets, treating each other with respect, bullying, asking for permission (consent) and understanding that each person's body belongs to them.
- We will also be looking at stealing and why stealing is not acceptable and the consequences that may happen, if we steal.

Geography

- In Geography, we are learning about mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes and how they are formed by movements of the Earth's tectonic plates.
- We will explore the layers of the Earth, learn about different types of volcanoes, and discuss the effects of living near one.
- We will also find out how earthquakes happen and their impact on people and places.

Art and Design/Design and Technology

- Children will develop their printmaking skills using safe polystyrene printing techniques to create artwork inspired by volcanoes.
- They will learn how to design and carve their own printing tiles, then use coloured inks to make repeated prints. Pupils will experiment with printing on both paper and fabric, comparing the effects and textures of each surface, and will build confidence in creating layered and visually striking designs.

Computing

We will use a range of techniques to create a stop-frame animation using tablets. Next, they will apply those skills to create a story-based animation, such as music and text.

Religious Education

- We will explore key Jewish beliefs, including the importance of one God and the Torah.
- We will also learn how Jewish families worship in the synagogue and at home, and discover the meaning of special practices such as Shabbat.

How can you help your child at home?

- Ensure that they complete their homework, which is given out on Friday and is expected back on Wednesday.
- Listen to your child read their book for 20 minutes every day and discuss what they have read to check how well they have understood the text.
- Give your child opportunities to log onto the apps Times Tables Rock Stars and Century Tech to consolidate learning. Remember, little and often is best.
- Support your child to complete all of their home learning on a weekly basis, including practising their spellings for their spelling test.

Spanish

- We will be learning to introduce ourselves formally and informally and ask how somebody is feeling.
- We learn how to use different phrases to greet people.

Physical Education

We will be learning the skills of hockey, focussing on: passing and receiving, moving with the ball, getting past a player and tackling, hitting and shooting.

Music

- We will continue to sing songs building rhythm, melody and rounds. We will continue to learn to play recorders.
- We will continue learning musical notes and how to read them.