



# Welcome to Year 3!

September 2021

Hello Parents and Carers, welcome to Year 3, your child's first step into their Key Stage 2 journey. I hope that this letter will inform you about part of our routine in Year 3, and provide some useful information about the new year ahead. We have an exciting year ahead of us with plenty of opportunities to explore and develop new skills, dive into new areas of learning, including French, and making sure we have lots of fun along the way.

Now that your child is in Year 3, I encourage children to develop their independence in all aspects of school life, from selecting their own supporting resources to making good choices for themselves and others. Children are rewarded for their efforts and positive choices through verbal praise, team points, certificates and stickers.

## **Belongings**

Please can you make sure that all of your child's belonging are clearly labelled, including their water bottles, lunchboxes, jumpers/cardigans and coats. It is much easier for children and staff to keep track of their belongings if they are named.

## **PE**

PE is timetabled for Mondays and Thursdays so I am encouraging children to leave their PE kits on their pegs from Monday through to Thursday. This also gives me some flexibility to change days if we need to work around school events or bad weather. Please can you also make sure that your child has a jumper/hoody and joggers/leggings ready for colder weather as we will endeavour to go outside most weeks.

## **Homework:**

### **Reading**

Each week, your child will be given one or two home reading books. These will match the reading level they are reading in school. The children are allowed to choose the books they bring home but always have guidance from an adult. Reading at home is a great opportunity in helping your child in developing their reading skills. To support your child's reading, please encourage them to read daily and help them to record it in their reading record. As your child progresses through the reading levels it may not be possible to listen to them read aloud for a whole book but if you could share a few pages with them and ask them relevant questions about the text then that will be beneficial. Key Reading Questions can be found on the class page. Book changes will be suggested weekly but the frequency will depend on the length of the book your child chooses so may be longer or shorter. Your child is welcome to change their book whenever they wish.

## **Spellings/Phonics**

Spelling homework will be collected on a Tuesday morning and will usually be handed back out in the afternoon or the following day. Every week it will consist of a phonic sound or spelling rule and some 'words of the week' which children need to learn to spell. These will have been taught in lessons during the week and should be consolidation of skills rather than the learning of new ones. As well as improving spelling skills this homework is also a good opportunity for your child to practise their writing. Children will be rewarded for their efforts made to focus on improving handwriting, extending their sentences and improving their vocabulary. If your child is ever unsure about their homework, please inform me or encourage them to ask in class for further clarification.

## **Poems**

Each week, your child will be given a poem to learn by heart at home. They will also be learning it in class daily. These won't always be at the matching reading level to your child so please read it to them if they are struggling. The poems will be found inside the reading record.

## **Numeracy**

Numeracy homework will be set on worksheets sent home in a folder each week. These worksheets will reinforce the learning we have been doing in school, as well as revisiting key concepts from earlier teaching. As well as these sheets, children will also be expected to complete at least 5 sessions every week on Times Tables Rock Stars. Each daily session is only 3 minutes long, but short daily practice will really have a huge impact on children's automatic recall and speed with their tables. Usernames and passwords for TTRS will be sent home with the first set of homework.

If you have any quick questions or messages, please feel free to catch me before school or at the end of the day, once all children have been dismissed. Should you have any bigger concerns, or there is something you wish to discuss privately, please contact the school office to arrange for a telephone call or meeting.

Thank you for taking the time to read this welcome letter, and I look forward to working with you and your child this year.

Kind regards,

Mrs Turney