September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 3!

Here are a few things to help you throughout the year.

The children are now in Key Stage 2 and getting to grips with their new curriculum, their new location in the school building and a more responsible role about the school. It is a big step for them but they have made a very good start.

Please find attached a copy of the Year 3 timetable and a curriculum mind map.

Uniform/ personal belongings

Year 3 have Games on Wednesday morning and Friday afternoon. Please ensure that they have their kit in school every day. This should include proper trainers for outdoor games, a spare pair of socks, t-shirt, shorts above the knee for gymnastics and a warm tracksuit for outdoor games. When the weather is very cold, gloves and a woolly hat may also be worn. It is school policy that long hair is always tied back and no jewelry or watches are to be worn for Games or P.E. Ear studs must be removed wherever possible or taped.

Please name all school uniform items, PE kit and water bottles to avoid personal belongings being misplaced, as children move around the school. You may wish to provide your child with a packet of hair clips/ ties and/or a small comb to keep in their tray - particularly if their hair is ‘high maintenance’!

Reading

Reading assessments are in progress and I will shortly be in a position to give out individual reading books, comprehension activities and organise guided reading groups. I aim to hear your child read individually at least once a week – this may be their reading scheme book or our class text. Your children are asked to get their reading packets out each morning – they will have the opportunity to change their book providing a grown-up has signed to say it is completed. The children will soon have the opportunity to borrow a library book once a week.

Home Learning

I appreciate that families have busy lives away from school but please hear your child/children read every evening and comment on how they got on in the yellow reading record. Get your child to retell the story, say whether they liked it or a particular character and, importantly, get them to justify their ideas. Your input will be crucial in developing your child’s (children’s) ability to comprehend a text, express an opinion and ‘read between the lines’.

Spellings will be set weekly on a Tuesday and tested the following Monday. Maths home-learning will be set weekly using the online Mathletics programme. Additionally, on alternate weeks, the children will bring home either a maths game to play or their Problems! Problems! Problems! book to complete a challenge.

Each fortnight your child will have a Learning Log activity to complete.

Guest speakers

Class 3 is timetabled to have three short class assemblies on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays within the week and I would like to use some of the time to invite in some guests in. It is essential that the children see a purpose to their learning and make links with the world around them. To this end I would welcome any parent, grandparent or family friend who might make those simple links ‘come alive’ by talking about their own career or interests. Please complete the reply slip below if you can help or speak to me directly.

**Finally and importantly**, if you have any queries – no matter how small - I would be pleased to see you. Please contact the school to make an appointment or catch me after school to arrange a mutually convenient time.

Best wishes,

Mrs. Rankin

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**Guest Speakers**

I would be interested in coming to talk to Year 3 children.

I could talk to them about my career/ interest in………………………………………….

and make links with how important it has been to learn (writing/ reading/ maths/ science/history etc.) and have an active approach to learning (teamwork, resilience, keeping healthy etc. ).

Any additional comments…

Signed………………………………………………………………………………………………….