

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to Year 3! I hope you have all had a lovely break over the summer holidays. The children have settled back into school life really well this week and have made a super start to Year 3!

This term I will be out of class on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings for PPA time. Mr Novell will teach on Monday afternoons, and Mrs Peters on Thursday mornings. Miss Stacey will support the class all week, and Mrs Wareham will be with us each afternoon from Monday to Thursday.

**English** - In English we are looking at the book 'Orion and the Dark'. We will be focusing on writing adventure stories. Then, we will explore non-fiction texts, including writing reports.

**SPaG/Handwriting** - In Year 3, we will all be working towards joining our handwriting and maintaining regular size and spacing!

**Maths** - In maths in the Autumn term we will start by learning about number and place value, then we will apply our knowledge of number composition to focus on addition and subtraction.

**Science** - In science, we will be investigating Light and Dark. This will link to our English work on Orion and the Dark, where we will learn about how shadows are formed and how we can throw our shadows.

**Topic** - Our first History topic will be exploring Railways and the changes in locomotives over time. Then, our Geography topic will be about countries and cities around the world!

**Art & DT** - Our Artwork will be focused on still life drawings and learning how to use a pencil to shade and create texture. Using our science knowledge of Light and Dark we will design and create our own shadow puppets in DT.

**Spanish** - We will be revising Spanish greetings, pronunciation and learning how to present ourselves.

**PSHE & RE** - Our topic in Jigsaw this half term is "Being Me in My World". In RE, we will focus on the question: What do Christians learn from the Creation story?

**Computing** - In computing, we will be learning all about connecting computers and how different digital devices can form a network.

**Music** - This year, the children will be learning the trumpet with our external music teacher, Mr Novell. These music lessons will take place on a **Monday afternoon**. Your child will be allowed to bring their instrument home to practise, and this will need to be brought back into school every Monday for the lesson. Further information about instrument load and upcoming concerts will be sent via Mrs Hall.

**PE** - The children will be having outdoor PE lessons on **Tuesdays**. Please can children have a full kit to change into, including weather appropriate outdoor clothing and trainers. Long hair should be tied back, and all earrings and jewellery must be removed.

**Forest** - On **alternate Fridays**, the children will be having Forest School sessions with RUKI. These sessions will take place on the following dates this half-term: 12/09, 3/10, 17/10  
Children will need a full change of appropriate clothes, including boots/wellies, long trousers and long-sleeve top of jumper.

### **Other Information**

**Snacks** – In KS2, snack is no longer provided at playtime, if you wish to provide your child with a snack, please ensure this is healthy – i.e. no chocolate bars or crisps. Please remember we are a **nut free** school too!

**Homework** – Homework will be set on **Fridays** and should be completed in the children's green homework book, to be returned by the following **Tuesday**. Tasks will focus on SPaG and Maths, with clear instructions provided. This term, we are developing fluency with place value and improving spelling accuracy.

**Reading Books** – Children will read daily in school, either independently or with an adult. They will use colour-banded books or, if ready, move on to 'free readers' chosen from school or home. In KS2, we promote independence, so children are expected to bring their reading book and record to school **every day**. Reading at home remains very important, and your support is greatly appreciated.

I look forward to the year ahead, if you have any questions or queries, please contact the office to arrange a phone call or conversation.  
Best wishes, Miss Polkey.