

# Welcome to Year 3!

Stepping into Year 3 marks an exciting new chapter as the children begin their journey through Key Stage Two. Now part of the juniors, they are ready to embrace new challenges, grow in independence, and continue to flourish both academically and socially. The staff are here to support both the children and you-so please don't hesitate to speak to me if you ever have any questions or concerns. I'll always be happy to help.

#### Year 3 Staff

#### Mrs Sheridan (Class Teacher)

This will be my fifth-year teaching at BVPS, and I feel incredibly fortunate to work in such a supportive and welcoming school. I'm especially lucky to be teaching some of the children for a second time, having taught many of them during their nursery year. I am the subject lead for computing and music and love weaving technology into our learning wherever possible! This is a school improvement priority this year so watch this space! It was lovely spending time with the class during the summer term, and I'm thoroughly excited to see how much they progress and grow throughout the year.

#### Miss Blunt (Teaching Assistant)

Miss Blunt will be supporting the children in class. She has a passion for all things creative and arty. She has worked in many year groups across school and has an expertise in phonics and loves engaging in physical activities with the children. Last year, she completed the Disney Football coaching certificate for Girls Football. She is looking forward to putting this into practice this year.

#### Miss Barnes (Teaching Assistant)

Miss Barnes joined the BVPS team last year and she has a love for sport. She is a qualified football coach and supports the school with sporting fixtures. She has a wealth of experience working with children who have emotional/social or SEND needs.

They will be supporting the class by working with small groups and providing one-to-one support.

# Home learning

Your encouragement at home makes an incredible difference in your child's learning journey. By showing a positive attitude toward homework, reading, and learning new spellings, you help foster confidence and enthusiasm. Celebrate their efforts, talk about what they're learning, and share in their successes—no achievement is too small! Regular routines and gentle reminders to complete homework and practise reading or spellings can build lasting good habits. Most of all, knowing you are interested and proud of their hard work will inspire them to give their best every day.

Homework - Children will receive English and Maths homework each week. It will be handed out on Fridays and should be completed and returned by the following Thursday. Please ensure children look after their booklets and keep them in the plastic wallet provided.

<u>Spellings</u> - Every Friday, children will receive 10 spellings to learn for a test the following Friday. A paper copy will be sent home, and pupils will also practise these spellings during lessons.

<u>Reading</u> - Pupils should read their book-banded book to an adult at least three times a week to improve fluency. They may also read independently for pleasure. Please record any reading in their reading records so we can track their progress. Reading records will be checked every Thursday.

Please take the opportunity to read and discuss these books with your child, helping them develop a love for reading while supporting their progress. We will change reading books on a Friday. We ask that you record each reading session in their reading diaries. This helps us keep track of their progress and lets us know where extra support may be helpful. Your involvement at home truly makes a difference!

#### PE Days

Year 3 will have PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Pupils should bring their full PE kit and trainers (please see the school website for details) at the start of term and leave it in their locker until the end of the half-term. If kits need to go home for cleaning or after-school clubs, please ensure they are returned the next day.

In the juniors, we take part in an active session every day which will involve taking part in various physical activities. The children will need a pair of black trainers in their PE bags. Regular physical activity not only supports healthy bodies but also boosts concentration, confidence, and wellbeing, ensuring children are ready to learn and thrive.

## Important dates

Swimming is scheduled for the Spring term.

Class Guitar lessons will take place in the Summer term.

# Year 3 Online Safety

Children are starting to explore the online world more - through games, videos, and chatting with friends. It's fun, but it's also important to keep them safe while they learn and play.

#### Online Games (like Roblox & Minecraft)

These games can be great fun and help children connect with friends. But they also come with risks - chat features, strangers, and in-game purchases. Talk to us if you're unsure!

## Moods & Gaming

Some children can get frustrated or overexcited when playing games. If your child seems moody after gaming, it might be time for a break. Chat with them about how games make them feel.

## Time Limits

Set clear rules for how long your child can be online each day. Balance is key!

## Parental Controls

Make sure devices have parental controls switched on. These help block inappropriate content and limit access.

If you want any advice or have any questions, just ask a member of staff - we're here to support you!

Having met the children during the transition sessions in the final half-term, I can already see they are ready to take the next step in their education. I'm really looking forward to getting to know each of them even better over the coming year. Together, we'll work as a team to support your children in every way we can-academically, socially, and emotionally.
Best regards
Mrs Sheridan, Miss Blunt and Miss Barnes
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