

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Year 3 Parents,

We hope that your children are beginning to settle into Junior life. It is a time of change for them and they are all doing so well with the new routines and expectations that come with the transition to Year 3. It has been lovely to begin getting to know them this week.

We wanted to take this opportunity to outline some of the key information for the coming year.

### **Staffing and Topics**

Mrs Eccles teaches the class Monday to Thursday and Mrs Smith teaches Thursday and Friday.

Mrs Jennings is our main class Teaching Assistant and we also have Mrs Keenan and Mr Nash working with us for part of each day. We are also very lucky to have a volunteer, Mrs Denley, a former teacher and TA herself, who is with us for most Wednesdays.

We cover many exciting topics in Year 3 including learning about: Skeletons, the Local Area, Keeping Healthy, The Stone Age, The Iron Man by Ted Hughes, Volcanoes, the Romans, the Lake District and Plants. Further information about all our work is available on the Curriculum Overviews on our website and we will be updating Class Dojo with photographs.

### **Homework**

Homework will come home every **Thursday** (beginning Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September) and must be completed by the following **Tuesday**. One week will be a Maths booklet - one test to be completed each time - and the next week will be an English task (grammar and punctuation.)

There will also be a **Sumdog** task set each week to run Thursday to Tuesday.

**Spellings** will be posted in Class Dojo portfolios every **Wednesday** with the test being the following **Monday** (first test Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Sept.) Your child will be tested on 6 of the words they have been learning. Please support your child in looking for patterns within the spellings and help them understand the meanings of the words. Encouraging them to use the words in sentences can be beneficial to this.

**Times tables** will be tested fortnightly on a **Friday**. Mrs Smith will keep you informed of the tables to learn each time. Please practise these often with your child and also allow them to access **Times Table Rockstars**.

**Reading** – please hear your child read and discuss their book with them (every night if possible), signing their Reading Record when you do so. Reading books and diaries are to come into school every day please. Diaries will be checked at least once a fortnight and certificates and a dojo point will be awarded for every 10 times your child reads at home and has their diary signed. Please remind your child to tell the teacher when they have finished and are ready to choose a new book.

We no longer have access to Bug Club but we will send further details of our new electronic reading resource in due course once it is up and running.

### **PE**

Our PE days are **Tuesday** and **Friday**. Please ensure that your child has a **named** PE kit in school at all times. They may wish to bring trainers and leggings/jogging bottoms/sweater/hoody as the weather turns colder – we will be outdoors when possible.

### **Water bottles and snacks**

Children are encouraged to bring in a water bottle which they will have on their desk in the classroom for regular hydration breaks. Please note that these bottles must only contain **water** (no juice or flavoured water please.)

Children may bring in some **fruit or vegetables** for a morning playtime snack or, of course, hot snacks can be ordered and paid for on ParentPay.

As always, if there is a medical reason that your child is unable to drink water or eat fruit, please contact us so that we can discuss alternative arrangements.

We would like to thank you in advance for your support in all the above areas. We appreciate how difficult it can be to fit everything in with busy family lives but the work you do at home with your child really does have an impact on their learning and progress so every little helps!

If you have any questions or concerns at all, please do not hesitate to contact one of us either in the playground at the end of the day or via Class Dojo.

We look forward to working with your children this year and helping them to achieve their very best.

*Clare Eccles and Gemma Holliday-Smith* (Y3 Class Teachers)