



Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Year 3 Autumn Term Newsletter

I would like to take this opportunity to **welcome** you and your child to Year 3! I am **thrilled** to have inherited such a delightful bunch. In front of us lies an extremely busy term, which I am sure will be both challenging and enjoyable for your child.

Attached, you will find a **Curriculum Map** with a brief outline of the work we will be covering this term. I hope you find this useful as you discuss school life with your child.

Please be advised of the following points:-

- My planning, preparation and assessment time (PPA) is on a **Tuesday** morning when the children will be taught French by Mrs Papworth and have **PE** with Mr West. The children will have a second **PE** session – with myself – on a **Thursday**. Children should have both indoor and outdoor kits in school and will be expected to fully participate unless they have a note to excuse them. Ideally, PE kits should remain in school all week in the event that we have an extra session. Children wearing earrings must be able to remove them by themselves, or supply earring tape from home; long hair must be tied back. Girls wearing tights should bring a pair of socks to line their trainers/plimsolls.

Indoor kit: white school t-shirt, red shorts and plimsolls.

Outdoor kit: tracksuit or similar and trainers.

- **Please, please, please** ensure that all items of clothing are **named**, so that we can return them to their rightful owners - and save you the frustration of hunting and the expense of buying more...
- A reminder that dinner money should be placed in a **marked, sealed envelope** - please do not give your child loose change. Children may bring a snack for morning play (preferably healthy) or money for the tuck trolley. Toast costs 10p and other items up to 50 pence. The children are responsible for looking after their own snack money.
- **Home-school journals** and **reading books** should be in school **every day**. Journals can be used as a means of you communicating with me, but please tell your child to thrust the book under my nose (!) as these will not be checked routinely.
- It will be **hugely beneficial** to your child if you are able to hear them **read regularly** at home. Please record this in their journal. By the start of Year 3, it is expected that children can read accurately and at a speed that is sufficient for them to focus on **understanding what they read** rather than on decoding individual words. Children will be responsible for placing their book in the changing box **at the start of the day**. Book quizzes can be undertaken at home - see accompanying letter. A new whole-school incentive is that children that have read at least 4 times in a week will be entered into a draw to win a book in Friday's achievement assembly.
- As a school, we have reviewed our approach to **spelling**. Consequently, there will be **no formal weekly test**. We will, of course, still teach key patterns, rules and strategies in class. There will be a letter from Mrs Rayner (English subject leader) in the near future to explain the thinking behind this decision.

[continued overleaf]

- **Maths homework** will be set most **Fridays** – to be tested the following Friday – to develop rapid recall of key number facts and develop procedural fluency.
- The **Year 3 class page** on the **school website** will be regularly updated - please familiarise yourself with it. It will contain our class gallery, children's work, links to suggested websites and useful information such as homework tasks.

I will be holding a **Parent Briefing** session on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 4.15pm. This session will largely consist of me going over the points in this newsletter and providing a little more detail – if required. It will also be an opportunity for you to make yourself known to me, make me aware of anything you think I should be aware of (although, obviously, I have had conversations with Mrs McCarthy as part of our transition process) and ask any questions.

Should you have any queries or concerns regarding your child's work, welfare or any other matters, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will be available on the playground at the start (except Tuesday) and end of the school day, or you can arrange an appointment with me if you require more time.

If you do need to talk to me first thing, I politely request that you come to the **front of the line**. Once the children start filing in, my attention is on supervising them which can make conversation rather difficult. Thank you for your understanding.

I look forward to working with you to support your child on their learning journey and helping them to **be the best they can be!**

Yours faithfully,



**Thomas Frost**

Year 3 Class teacher