

Welcome to Year 3 and 4 September 2023



As your child's new class teachers, we would like to extend a warm welcome to you all. This letter is designed to give you a brief overview of your child's school life over the coming year in terms of our expectations, as well as providing you some insight into the topics we intend to cover. We are here for you so do please come and see us if you ever have any concerns, questions or suggestions. Mrs Jo Lunt teaches on Monday, Tuesday and half of Wednesday and Miss Siobhan Deeny teaches the other half of Wednesday as well as Thursday and Friday.

General

If you would like to contact us for any reason, please use the school admin email and we will get back to you as soon as possible. We will also be available at the end of the school day. There are two formal parents' evenings during the year. The first ones will be held the week beginning 16th October; more details will follow nearer the time. We will call the register at 8:50am each morning and your child will need to be in the classroom before then to ensure they do not miss any announcements or learning time. You are aware that we are a 'uniform school' and, as a school, we will be raising expectations in standards this year. All children should wear school uniform (navy jumper/cardigan, grey skirt/pinafore/trousers/shorts, white polo shirt, plain grey/white/black socks, sensible and smart black shoes.) Nail varnish should be removed before school. Please see our website under the 'Parents' tab (school information) for more information about uniform.

English

English is taught for at least one hour a day but there will also be additional sessions focusing on spelling, grammar, comprehension, and handwriting. The children will explore a wide range of text types to link their writing to during the year and their reading and writing skills will be developed and extended. We teach English through an approach where children work towards a shared goal but with different starting points depending on their understanding. This helps us ensure time is not wasted by repeating aspects that children already know how to do.

The children will be expected to write independently, editing and improving their writing as part of the process.

The children will also undertake a weekly reading comprehension exercise. It is beyond doubt that the most beneficial way of helping your child make progress is to regularly support their reading at home, both hearing them read and being read to. We would really appreciate your support with this. If your child is reluctant to read at home or if you want support, please come and see us.

Spellings for each week are introduced on a Monday. During the week, children will be learning these spellings and a new spelling rule. The spellings can be seen each week on the Teams homework.

Maths

Maths is also taught daily. Our aim is to ensure that the children are confident handling numbers and completing calculations and that they progress only when their understanding is completely secure. If the formal strategies they are using are unfamiliar, or you would like strategies clarified, please don't hesitate to see me.

In Maths, we use the White Rose scheme as a basis of our teaching and the children will develop their skills through a mixture of activities, including formal written lessons, investigations, practical activities and games. Every week they will also complete times tables tests- continued practice of the multiplication tables at home would be very much appreciated; **all children are expected to know their tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4.** They have a login for Times Tables Rockstars to support their progress.

Topic Work

In our non-core curriculum this year, we will be looking at:

- The Romans
- Rivers and Coasts
- The Egyptians

Each topic will have a Geography or History focus and children will explore a question linked to their topic to help them build and develop their knowledge.

Our other lessons include computing, Science, RE, PSHE, PE, Music, Art and/or D.T.

P.E. & Kit

PE will be held on Monday and Wednesday and this term will focus on basketball on Mondays and swimming on Wednesdays. Children need to wear navy/blacks shorts and a school PE t-shirt or plain red t-shirt and trainers or plimsoles. For outdoor games, children may wear a tracksuit instead in cold weather. Children should arrive at school wearing their PE kit on their designated PE days. All kit should be clearly named. Please note, no jewellery may be worn during P.E. sessions. We have a duty to provide physical education to our children and you will be contacted by the school if your child regularly does not have their kit. **PE kits should be worn on the days that PE is timetabled, with the exception of swimming where changing is available at the pool.**

Homework

Homework is set on Teams on a **Tuesday** and is due in the following **Tuesday**. There will be weekly maths and/or English tasks (and sometimes topic or Science) which will consolidate the learning we have been doing in school. The homework should take no more than **30** minutes. If it is taking your child longer than this, please stop them and speak with Mrs Lunt or Miss Deeny.

Media

We now have a high media profile through the local press, our website, Facebook and Instagram. If you do not wish for your child's photo to be published, please let us know through the 'Media Permission' form that the office will send out.

Clubs

Throughout the year the children will be able to participate in a range of lunch time clubs. Further details will be sent out on the newsletter.

Collective Worship

We hold Collective Worship every day and use the time to explore our school values. Our Friday Collective Worship focuses on celebrating achievements and children are welcome to bring in awards they have gained outside school to share with everyone. Please also email the office and let us know if your child has demonstrated the current school value at home.

Information

A link to our weekly newsletters is sent home by email and contains important, up to date information, as well as photos of what the children have been learning that week. **Please make sure you check it weekly.** If you need to contact a teacher directly, please email the admin address and your message will be forwarded to the relevant teacher. If you do need a paper copy of any specific letters, please drop into the office and they will be happy to print one for you.

We have a really exciting year ahead and we are really looking forward to sharing it with your children and yourselves.