



Class 3 Newsletter no.1
September 2021



Dear Parents and Children,

Welcome back to School and to a new start in Class 3! I hope you all enjoyed the Summer holidays and I am sure that you are all looking forward to getting back to the routine of school as much as we are. I know some of you quite well from my time in Reception and I am looking forward to getting to know the Year Ones who were in Reception last year. I am excited to get started and feeling hopeful for a settled and uninterrupted year in Class 3. As you know from Ms McKenna's letter there have been changes to guidance and how we will be working in school. We will of course continue with regular handwashing and sanitising, which is something we have all become accustomed to in recent months. We will be working hard to ensure that the children are safe, happy and secure in Class 3 and we will continue to make learning as fun and exciting as possible.

Useful Information

What to bring to school each day:

Children should bring in their book bags containing their Reading Records and reading book into school each day. In Class 3, they will keep their book bags in their own drawers. Children also need to bring in a named water bottle every day. We will keep these in a central area and the children will bring them home at the end of school to be washed, ready for the next day.

The First Week

Our main focus during the first week back is to settle the children and familiarise them with all of the new routines. We will be revisiting our school golden rules including there are 'No- Outsiders'- everyone is included, which is now part of our rules. We will be using the book "Incredible You" by Rhys Brisenden and thinking about all of the fantastic things we can do. We will be getting to know each other as a class and creating a caring ethos where thoughts and worries can be shared.

Reading

Children will have a reading lesson with me each week. In addition to this, Year One Children and those at an early stage of reading will practise reading individually with a Teaching Assistant or volunteer as often as possible. Please send your child's Book Bag, containing their reading books and Reading Records, into school with them **each day**. This is so that the children have their books available when we are reading each morning and afternoon as part of our daily routine. This also gives the opportunity for an adult to listen in and monitor reading progress, wherever possible.

Changing Reading Books:

We will begin the year by changing the children's reading books once a week. The children will receive two books and the idea is that each book should be read at least 3 times. More detailed information about the teaching of reading will follow. Please do bring in any reading books that you may still have at home, so that we can return them to the book boxes. Children will receive their first new reading book and Reading Record on **Friday 10th September**.

PE:

Our PE Days in Class 3 will be **Mondays** and **Wednesdays** and the children will be coached by NUF every Wednesday. As explained in the whole school Newsletter, children will no longer need to come to school in their PE kits on the days that we have PE, so the children will need to bring a named PE kit to keep in school. **This year our PE kits will stay in school and will only need to be taken home at the end of each half term to be washed.** Our PE lessons will still be **outside**, weather permitting we will use the school field whenever possible, so the children will also require a warm top or hoody and leggings or tracksuit bottoms to wear in colder weather.

Homework:

This year, Homework will be sent home in either a homework book, or using the Seesaw app where appropriate. So, for those of you in Year One, this is an app used instead of the tapestry app used in Reception last year. Homework will be set on a **Thursday** and we ask that it is completed by the following **Monday**. We will also be sending you, through Seesaw, a list of the Common Exception words that children in Year 1 or Year 2 will need to read and spell by the end of the year. We will be practising them in class but would appreciate these being learned at home too.

Phonics Screen:

At the end of Year 1, our current **Year 2s** would have normally completed a Phonics Screening check in June. This year, again due to time missed with school closures, schools are being asked to screen **Year 2** children in the autumn term. We will be assessing children in the first few weeks to see where we can support them further in their phonics and we will let you know if your child would benefit from extra support at home too. The **Year 1** Phonics screen will- hopefully take place in June as it has done previously, again we will let you know if your child would benefit from extra support at home, once we have delivered all of the phonemes and have assessed the children's progress and readiness for the Phonics Screen.

Class Organisation:

Our Teaching Assistant in Class 3 is Mrs Suzanne Gorman, who also works as a lunch time supervisor in school and my PPA on a Wednesday afternoon will be covered by our HLTA Mrs Mingoia. As you will be aware, Class 3 is a mixed class, with some Year 1 children and some Year 2 children. All the classes in Key Stage 1 explore the same topics and tasks. Activities are differentiated according to the individual needs of each class and the individual children within the class. The children within Class 3 are grouped according to ability, it is ability and not age which is the major factor in deciding groups to enable us to address the needs of the individual children. We know the 'mixed age' class can seem a bit strange to begin with, but please be assured the children will cover the same content as the other Key Stage 1 classes and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Arriving at School:

Class 3 children should come into school through the Class 3 door from the yard. Doors will open at 8.50 for an 8.55 start. We will continue to sanitise hands on the way in, using the dispenser attached to the fence outside Class 3. As detailed in Ms McKenna's letter, we will continue with regular handwashing and sanitising throughout the school day. The children will also wash their hands before leaving school at 3.20 and they will come out of the classroom door onto the yard.

If you need to contact me with any queries or concerns, then please ring or email the school office. Thank you for your ongoing support and kind words. Fingers crossed, the months ahead will be disruption free and we can enjoy a happy and successful year in school with our super new Class 3!

Many thanks,

Sally McMillan

Curriculum information for English and Maths

English

Reading opportunities

In reading, children will listen to and discuss a range of Traditional Tales, Fairy Stories and stories based on places that children have been and are familiar with. They will also be reading and following instructions. Throughout the half term children will be:

- predicting and discussing events
- linking reading to their own experiences
- asking and answering questions about texts
- applying phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words
- reading accurately by blending sounds in unfamiliar words
- re-reading books to build up fluency and confidence in word reading

Writing opportunities:

In writing, children will learn to write their own story in the style of a Traditional Tale; write their own story set in places they have been and write simple sentences using imperative verbs.

Children will be:

- Combining words to make sentences
- Joining clauses using and
- Sequencing sentences to form short texts
- learning to write for a variety of purposes
- using adjectives to add detail
- writing imperative verbs
- learning to join letters and ensuring that they can form their letters correctly (please see joins below)
- spelling correctly by segmenting words
- using familiar and new punctuation correctly including full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks and commas for lists

Handwriting Joins:

Y2- *th, ch, ai, ay, ir, er, wh, oh, ow, ou*

Y1- Will be focussing on correct letter formation of all letters.

Spelling Focus:

- e is added to words ending in the v sound have, live, give
- making adjectives by adding -er and est (Grander, fresher, quicker)
- tch- after a single vowel letter catch, fetch, hutch. Except rich, which, much, such
- S and es to the end of words

Maths

Number- Place Value

Y1: Children will learn to:

- Count to twenty, forwards and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1, or from any given number
- Count, read and write numbers to 20 in numerals and words
- Given a number, identify one more and one less
- Identify and represent numbers using objects and pictorial representations including the number line and use the language of : equal to, more than, less than, most and least

Y2: Children will learn to:

- Read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals and in words
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a two digit numbers (tens, ones)
- Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations including the number line
- Compare and order numbers from 0-100; use < > and = signs
- Use place value and number facts to solve problems

Number- Addition and subtraction

Y1: Children will learn to:

- Represent and use number bonds and related subtraction facts within 20
- Read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving addition (+), subtraction (-), and equals (=) signs.
- Add and subtract one digit numbers to 20, including zero
- Solve one step problems that involve addition and subtraction, using concrete objects and pictorial representations and missing number problems

Y2: Children will learn to:

- Recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20 fluently, and derive and use related facts up to 100
- Add and subtract numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally, including: a two-digit number and ones; a two-digit numbers and tens; two two-digit numbers; adding three one-digit numbers
- Solve problems with addition and subtraction: using concrete objects and pictorial representations, including those involving numbers, quantities and measures; applying their increasing knowledge of mental and written methods
- Show that the addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot.
- Recognise and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and use this to check calculations and solve missing number problems.

