



Yellow Class – Autumn Term Newsletter 2020

Dear Year Three Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new term and the new academic year!

It has been lovely to have the children back at school. They have all settled down well and are eager to learn and take on new challenges. Our teaching team this year is Alida Du Plessis, Helen Giffen and Mersey Roberts.

Since our return to school we have been looking at the book 'Here we Are' by Oliver Jeffers. This has helped the children share their different experiences from the last few months and reflect on their time at home. They have written the most beautiful poems about their favourite places in the world.

Every class in school has been timetabled with a number of sessions each day in the outside areas in school – the allotment, field, wooded area and playgrounds. We will be using these times to ensure the children get plenty of fresh air and exercise between classroom based learning and we will be teaching outside when this is possible too.

We have a busy and exciting term ahead of us so here is some key information about the learning we have to look forward to.

Curriculum focus

This term we are going to cover a number of shorter topics linked to our learning in history and geography. Our first topic will be Pre History. We will be learning about the changes in aspects of life in the Stone Age and Bronze Age and developing our skills of interpreting sources of evidence. Our first science topic this term is Forces and Magnets which will give us plenty of opportunities to take our investigations and learning outside.

If you have any resources or books that can support the children's learning please do let us know.

Maths

Our maths sessions will focus on supporting the children to re-activate all their prior learning as well as starting the curriculum for their current year. We will spend the first few weeks on place value and number work as this is so important for supporting other learning later in the year. Other key areas for Year 3 in the Autumn term are calculations (addition and subtraction) and geometry. It would be good if you could keep on revising number bonds to 20 with children and keep on practising times tables on the 'Times tables Rock stars' resource we have.

English

This term our fiction and non-fiction writing units will all be based on books. We are using the 'back on track' materials developed by County to support the children with their writing across different genres. We know, from the parent survey results, that this is an area many parents have identified as a focus for children now they are back in school. In our English this term, Year 3 will be learning about traditional tales linked to fables, writing their own recounts in the form of newspaper reports, and producing their own poetry.

All children are expected to bring their reading book and green reading record to school with them every day, and should be reading at home to an adult or older sibling regularly. Reading records should be filled in when reading independently or with an adult please. Your child will take part in a teacher led guided reading group each week in addition to whole class guided reading sessions. We will be changing reading books and library books each week over the course of Thursday and Friday.

As well as reading at home, spelling homework will usually be set once a week on a Thursday or Friday.

As always, we will ensure to support all children's individual needs in a variety of ways. Additional support, individualised learning and intervention will continue in the children's bubbles. We will share any further information if necessary with parents in due course.

PE

Our PE will usually be on a Monday and a Wednesday. However, this may change as we take advantage of the weather and lead sessions outside whenever possible. To begin with this term our focus will be ball skills and working as a team.

Therefore, it is important that the children have a **full** PE kit with them every day, including a long sleeved top and trainers for outdoor PE work. Children with long hair must remember to bring a hair tie. PE kits will be sent home to be washed at the end of the week and then returned the following Monday. Thank you.

Homework

In line with our homework policy, home learning will focus on reading, spelling and maths skills. We will be setting our first homework task next week and will be using on-line platforms for this. We will remind all parents of any usernames and passwords that they need. Setting our home learning in this way will support in the event of children needing to continue their learning at home.

Unfortunately, for now, there are no class assembly dates. However, we will share with you details and photographs of the children's learning in the whole school newsletters on a regular basis.

I hope that this information is helpful to you, but please do contact us via email or phone if there is anything at all you want to discuss.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Du Plessis, Mrs. Giffen and Miss. Roberts