

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to a new school year in Class 3. Please read this letter carefully for information about Class 3 and the ways you can help support your child's learning. This information can also be found on Class 3's page on the school website.

Staff working in Class 2 this year: The main class teacher will be Mrs Crane with Mrs Towe and Mrs Edmondson teaching weekly PE and RE sessions.

Start of the school day

Children can come into class when the doors open at 8.45am. The children will have the opportunity to change reading books or complete some short activities, for example Times Table Rockstars or handwriting practice, during the time before the main lessons begin. Registration takes place at 8.55am and all children should be in class by this time.

Equipment

We are providing children with all stationery equipment they will need for their work, so it is not a requirement for children to bring their own equipment from home. Children do need a bag to carry letters, books, reading records and homework between school and home.

Children may wear watches in school, however Smart watches or Fitbits, which have the function to take photos/videos or make contact with another device, are not allowed in school.

Uniform

Please make sure that PE kits, school uniform and coats are labelled clearly. Children will need to come to school in their PE kit for PE lessons, which are on Mondays. On Tuesdays children need to bring a swimming kit in a separate bag for swimming lessons, which begin on Tuesday 23rd September.

Details of the uniform and PE kit can be found on the school website. Trainers are only to be worn for PE, not as part of the school uniform. If a child doesn't have the correct PE kit, they will be offered spare kit available in school.

Snacks and water

Please ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school each day, which is clearly labelled with their name. These bottles should contain water and not juice or squash.

Break time snacks should be a healthy snack such as fruit, vegetables or cheese and not sugary snacks or crisps.

Home learning

Reading

In school, your child will participate in class reading activities and enjoy listening to the class story. Details of the term's class books are on Class 3's webpage. Every child will bring home individual reading books to read independently and/or share with parents/carers. Please read regularly with your child at home – little and often is the best approach. Children will read Accelerated Reader books, which involve an online quiz taken in school to test their understanding of the text. For shorter reading books, it is really important that children read their book 2-3 times. This will enable them to build their sight vocabulary and fluency and also increase their understanding of the text. Please feel free to write a comment in your child's reading record if you wish. I also encourage children to record their book quiz scores. Children will have a daily opportunity to change their books, if they have finished reading them and completed the book quiz.

Sharing a book can be...

- Hearing your child read aloud
- Sharing/alternate reading aloud
- Reading to your child and talking about the characters or story line
- Silent reading

Remember to ask questions about the story or non-fiction text

- Can they predict what will happen next?
- How would you feel if...?
- Who is your favourite character and why?
- What was your favourite part of the story and why?
- Can they relate it to their own life/experiences?
- What would be a better title for the book?

Times tables

Children will have a username and password for Times Table Rockstars (TTRS). These login details are glued inside the front cover of the children's reading records. Fluency in times tables is extremely important for your child's confidence and ability to progress in maths. Your child can practise the times tables and related division facts at home and they will also have opportunities to practise at school. By the end of the school year, **Year 4 children** should know all times tables up to 12x and **Year 3** should be

able to recall multiplication and division facts for 2x, 3x, 4x, 5x, 8x and 10x tables. Year 4 children will take the statutory Multiplication tables check set by the Government in June and practice on TTRS provides them with a similar format to the statutory test.

Maths homework

Children will have weekly maths homework to complete from a times table workbook. This homework will be given out on Fridays and needs to be returned to school by Thursday of the next week at the latest. Our expectation is that all children will complete this regular weekly homework and your support with this is much appreciated. Remember that your child can use any equipment to help with counting or drawings to support their calculations.

English homework

All children will be covering a Spelling programme using the Read Write Inc. scheme. Children will have spellings to learn at home using the Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check method in a special spelling homework book. This practice will enable children to retain spelling knowledge of spelling patterns and common exception words, which do not follow the regular spelling rules.

Additionally, every half term I will send home a short list of common exception words, which are commonly used words that do not follow spelling rules, to learn. These can also be found on Class 3's webpage.

Class page of the school website

If you require any further information on how you can support your child with their learning at home, please visit the school website and then find the link for Class 3's page. You will find links to useful websites, such as Times Table Rockstars and Accelerated Reader for book quizzes.

If you need any further help, please come to see me so I can discuss your child's individual needs. You can also email me at: simone@st-patrickscofe.cumbria.sch.uk

I look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child's progress and success.

Kind regards

Mrs Crane