

Dear Year 3 Children, Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 3

And welcome back to school.

We are all delighted to have you back in school and we hope that you managed to stay safe and well during lockdown. Obviously things in school are a little different now and we have routines in place to ensure that the classroom and school is a safe environment for us to work and learn in.

This year, in Year 3 there will be myself, Mrs Harding, and Miss Rogers - who, many of you will remember from Year 1. We will be working together closely to make sure that your children learn as well as they can and achieve their potential.

As you will know from Mrs Berry's letter to you at the end of the summer term, the timings of the school day are changing for lots of us. Please can I remind you that in Year 3, children need to be arriving at school between 8:40am and 8:55am, remembering to follow social distancing guidelines. Year 3 children and parents will need to enter through the blue gate beside Mrs Berry's office and walk to the back classroom door where I will be waiting to welcome you straight into the classroom.

At the end of the day, please remember that timings have also changed a little. In order to follow government guidelines and limit the number of people gathering on the school site, we have a collection window between 3pm and 3:15pm. We ask that an adult collects from the rear classroom door and that children are not leaving the school site on their own. Please ensure that if other parents are waiting you maintain a social distance of 1m+.

In Year 3, we have PE on Monday morning and Thursday afternoon. PE kit must be in a named bag and on the children's peg. Please can I also remind you that children must have their PE kits in school all week and they will be sent home on Friday.

TOPIC



Our topic for this half term is '**The Jurassic Coast**' where we will be reading the book 'StoneGirl, Bone Girl' by Laurence Anholt which is about Mary Anning. We will be learning about rocks, fossils and soils in Science to complement this work.

TOPIC HOMEWORK!

To link with our topic, you will find a homework grid on the website outlining a selection of different tasks to be completed before the end of this half term. The grid consists of 4 columns with 3 different activities. Each activity has a given number of points and over the half term the children will need to complete a minimum of 20 points (of course they can exceed this number if they wish). It is important to make sure that at least one activity from each group is completed (A-D).

You will have the whole half term to complete your 20 points however I do advise that you don't leave it all to the last minute. You do not need to complete all of the activities on paper but can present them however you choose - posters, models, leaflets etc. Towards the end of the half term we will then have a day where you will need to bring all of your topic work in and we will share it together as a class.

Please do feel free to ask if you are unsure or need any support with the activities. Have fun!

SPELLINGS

Every week the children will have 5 spellings to learn from the statutory curriculum spelling list. These lists are given out for Y1/2 and Y3/4 at the beginning of the term and the children also have them stuck in the front cover of their Literacy books. Each week the children will have 5 to learn and on completion of these words will be given the next 5. The remainder of the spelling test will be on rules taught that week during spelling lessons. For example, if the rule learnt is how to spell the sound 'ay' in different ways, the children will have learnt the words during their lessons and will be asked to practise them at home. The test will take place on a Friday morning and the children's new spelling will be sent home on the Monday at the very latest (where possible on the Friday).

MATHS & ENGLISH

Each week there will be maths and English homework set on a Friday and due in the following Wednesday. We will be introducing IXL, which is an interactive online learning platform, to support our English and Maths homework. This is in order to minimise potential contamination with resources moving between home and school on a regular basis. We will be sending more information out shortly to support you and your child with accessing this at home.

TIMES TABLES

To support with speedy recall of times tables, we also ask that children spend no longer than 10 minutes completing their allocated challenges on Times Tables Rocks Stars (TTRS) at home.



READING

In addition to the set homework I cannot stress enough the importance of regular reading. Please make sure that you hear your child read **AT LEAST 4** times a week - daily when possible. The children should be reading and discussing the text with you.

Please remember to record reading in their journals provided.

PIP LETTERS

Please can I remind you that details of what we have been learning and the homework set will be uploaded onto the school website each Friday for your reference.

MEET THE TEACHER

Normally we would hold a 'Meet the Teacher' evening in early September for you to come into the classroom and discuss the new routines and expectations of the new year group. Sadly, due to government guidelines, these will not be held in person. However, we will be uploading a PowerPoint presentation onto the 'Year 3' class page area of the school website on Friday 18th September for your reference. This will hopefully answer questions that you may have about the new school year. If you have any further questions, please do feel free to contact the school and arrange a time to meet and discuss any queries or concerns.

I am very much looking forward to this academic year and thank you in advance for your support. After what has been an unprecedented time so far, I am excited to get started in what will be a challenging but exciting year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Harding