



Dear Parents, Carers and Year 3 Children,

Welcome to Year Three. We hope you are all enjoying being back in school and we are really pleased with how well you are all settling into KS2 and new routines. Below is an overview of areas we will be working on in maths and English and ways that you can support at home. Also included is a summary of homework.

### **Reading:**

#### **At school we focus on:**

- Working out unknown words using phonics, blending, chunking and stretching and other strategies taught previously.
- Teaching specific words linked to year three. For example: certain, famous, address.
- Developing an enjoyment of reading focusing on a range of books.
- Understanding plot enabling a greater understanding of the text.
- Reading with expression through using punctuation correctly.
- Predicting what might happen from details stated and implied.
- Encouraging the children to question each other and discuss their viewpoint on the text.

#### **At home you could:**

- Play snap with high frequency words, spot the words in the books, count the words.
- Talk about the book and ask questions. For example, "What does \_\_\_\_\_ mean?"
- Take turns to read as you can model the expression.
- Talk about how books can be read differently - fiction and non-fiction.
- Encourage your child to express an opinion about books.
- Locate information using the contents and index.
- Question your child when reading.
- Identify parts of the sentence...Is it an adjective? 'It was a **wonderful** book.' Find an adverb...'He ate his breakfast **quickly**.'
- Encourage your child to read and share their choosing book and reading homework.

### **Writing: Spelling**

#### **Ways we teach spelling at school:**

- use prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them
- spell further homophones
- spell words that are often misspelt
- use the first 2 or 3 letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary
- write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far.
- Encourage children to use their word log and classroom resources to find the correct way to spell the word and use phonics knowledge to have a go.



### **How you can help with spelling at home:**

- Use taught spelling strategies.
- Use Spelling Shed online with weekly spellings.
- Notice words in books.
- Check in a dictionary.
- Does it look right? Have a couple of tries and choose the correct or closest version.

### **Writing: Handwriting**

#### **In school we focus on:**

- Correct letter formation, size and legibility.
- Teaching handwriting joins when children have secured the correct letter formation.
- Using diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters are best left un-joined.
- Increasing speed and fluency in handwriting.

### **Writing: Composition**

#### **In school we teach children to:**

- Discuss and record ideas
- Plan the order of their writing
- Compose sentences orally before writing.
- Begin to use paragraphs as a way to group related material.
- Create settings, characters and plot
- Assess the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggest improvements.
- Proofread for spelling and punctuation errors.

### **Grammar and punctuation**

- Use capital letters and full stops correctly in sentences.
- Extend their sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions. For example: when, if, although.
- Use fronted adverbials in their writing. For example: afterwards, nearby.
- Use commas after fronted adverbials.
- Choose nouns or pronouns for clarity in their writing.
- Use and punctuate direct speech.
- Show possession by using the possessive apostrophe with singular and plural nouns.
- Use a range of prefixes.
- Begin to use paragraphs as a way to group related material.



**At home you could:**

- Encourage writing for different purposes e.g. shopping list, postcards, letters, diary, messages, book reviews/blurbs, e-mails.
- Use the computer to write.
- Don't correct every word.
- Remind to join handwriting.
- Praise good ideas and self-checking.
- Get children to read back their own work.
- Read what your child has written and ask if it makes sense.

**Maths:**

**At school we teach children to:**

- Count from 0 in multiples of 4, 8, 50 and 100; find 10 or 100 more or less than a given number.
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a three-digit number (hundreds, tens, ones).
- Compare and order numbers up to 1000.
- Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations.
- Read and write numbers up to 1000 in numerals and in words.
- Solve number problems and practical problems involving these ideas.
- Add and subtract numbers mentally, including:
  - A three-digit number and ones
  - A three-digit number and tens
  - A three-digit number and hundreds
- Estimate the answer to a calculation and use inverse operations to check answers.
- Solve problems, including missing number problems, using number facts, place value, and more complex addition and subtraction.
- Add and subtract numbers with up to three digits, using formal written methods of column addition and subtraction.
- Recall and use multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables, 2, 5, 10 (from year 2) and 3, 4 and 8 (for year 3). Some children will know their tables to 12x12.
- Count up and down in tenths; recognise that tenths arise from dividing an object into 10 equal parts and in dividing one-digit numbers or quantities by 10.
- Recognise, find and write fractions of a discrete set of objects: unit fractions and non-unit fractions with small denominators.
- Compare and order unit fractions, and fractions with the same denominators.

**At home you could:**

- Support with times tables practice.
- Encourage children to estimate.
- When the need to calculate at home arises, involve them.
- Use apparatus to help solve questions.
- Get them to help with cooking and baking



## **Science:**

Working scientifically to:

- Raise their own questions.
- Recognise when a simple fair test is necessary and help to decide how to set it up.
- Make decisions about what observations to make, how long to make them for and the type of simple equipment that might be used.
- Collect data from their own observations and measurements, make decisions about how to record and analyse this data (with support).
- Look for changes and patterns, similarities and differences in their data in order to draw simple conclusions and ask questions.
- Use relevant scientific language to discuss their ideas and communicate their findings.

## **Scientific areas of study:**

- Rocks and soils
- Animals including humans
- Light
- Plants

## **For all other curricular areas:**

See our Year Three 'Curriculum Overview' sheet.

## **Homework**

Homework will be as follows:

<b>Reading task:</b>	<p>Children will be given a weekly home task at the end of the week based on their whole class reading sessions in school. This may be to share and enjoy the text with an adult or a short follow up reading activity to do and bring into school the following Monday.</p> <p>Children will also have a choosing book. They are encouraged and expected to change their choosing books independently regularly. This book will be brought home. We continue to encourage parents/carers to share and enjoy reading together, at home, every night.</p>
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During the Autumn term children will be introduced to Spelling Shed – an app/ website where they can practice the Year 3 spellings taught in school. Information will be put on Y3 Dojo for parents when logins have been sent and children have been taught how to use the programme. New spelling lists will be added weekly and children will be encouraged practice these at home.



During the Autumn term, children will also be introduced to Times Tables Rockstars (TTR) a free app / website where children can practice their times tables in a fun way. Children will be taught how to access TTR and how to use it effectively in school. We have always found that children enjoy using TTR and it makes a huge difference to their knowledge and retention of times tables. Logins will be sent home for pupils in the Autumn term and we would encourage them to enjoy using this to practice their times tables at home. Further information will be put on Y3 Dojo when logins have been sent out.

We look forward to an exciting and enjoyable year with your children. Please check class dojo regularly for information and photos about Year 3.

As ever, your support is very much appreciated.

**Mrs Salter and Mrs Chaplin.**