

## Class 3 Curriculum Newsletter Autumn 2020

Dear Parents

We hope that you are all safe and well, and ready for an exciting but different year. Mrs Merrett, Mrs Fox and I will be teaching the class based in Class 3 and in the library so that we can be a bit more distanced. We will have space in Class 3 for whole class inputs then split into the two working spaces for more independent work. We will have a lot more handwashing and have a designated toilet so that we can stay bubble-safe.

Each child has a copy of our timetable which we have talked through with them. This is given to help encourage Class 3 to begin to be more independent so that they can start to organise themselves.

We will be changing reading books only on a Friday. This is to minimise any viral contamination. We will give the children enough books to last a week, keeping one in class for use in school. Please keep the reading books together with the Reading Record, making sure that you sign in it. We will update our school records from the diaries on a Friday only. The books returned on a Friday will then be stored separately before re-joining the book baskets the following week.

We will be doing PE on a Thursday and a Friday afternoon. Please send your child into school in their PE kit, again so that we can minimise viral contamination and reduce the amount of bags in the cloakroom areas. Every day the children will need to bring in a named bottle of water, their lunch and a coat. Please encourage your child to only use water to drink during the day – to keep teeth healthy. A separate drink for lunchtime is, of course, allowed.

As we are arriving over an extended period, there will be morning activity on a Powerpoint to complete on arrival with a skill-based activity. The skills activity will then be repeated in the afternoon so all children will get the same amount of time to complete these. The skills will vary each day.

### Exciting opportunity!

Class three are all lucky that we have been selected to learn a musical instrument for this year. We are still in the process of arranging it but I am reliably informed that it will be a brass instrument. We will all learn in school with a Somerset Music specialist teacher, Mr David Bertie, on a Tuesday. All lessons will be conducted safely, considering all aspects, including coronavirus risks. More details to follow. This is a great opportunity as we do not currently have Mr Mitchell. He is teaching Class One at West Chinnock.

*Remember to check your emails, the website or the list in the classrooms for weekly events so that you know what is happening and when, as well as any advance notice cancellations.*

### Reading

Remember to only send in Reading books, Reading Record and bookbags on a Friday. Most of the reading taught at school takes place through the shared or group reading in class so your child may not read their individual book to us very often, although we will monitor their progress. Please help your child to practise their reading at home as much as possible. If you feel they are ready to change level, please speak to one of us. Your help with this is much appreciated, especially in this strange time.

### Times Tables

It is really important that your child is confident in their application of times tables, to enable them to achieve well in their maths work. Next summer, our year 4 children will be taking part in national testing of times tables. Please support us in encouraging their practise of times tables in many different ways. We will do some in school but also need you to help. Mathletics and TTRockstars are good with this. We will reissue the login details for these.

### Homework

I hope that homework will also be available on our new Google Classroom when it is available. We will also put photos of our class arrangements on the new Google Classroom so that you can see our workspace.

**Reading** Every week, we would like the children to undertake reading of their reading book at least 3 times. This can be in one of three ways: reading out loud to an adult; reading to themselves but discussing what they have read with an adult; reading only to themselves.

Ideally at least two of these types of reading should happen each week in the 3, or more reading sessions. *Each time the book is read I would like a sentence to be carefully written in the 'comments' section of the Reading Record about the part of the book that has just been completed.* It is suggested that by writing such sentences, deeper understanding of the text is attained. *Parents –please sign next to the sentences* so that you can also keep up with the story and the understanding and progress of your child. This signature will go towards rewarding your child with Monster Points for reading.

**Spellings** There will be a regular list of words coming home on a Thursday to learn as spellings or, when appropriate, to use in different sentences. There will be a test on a Thursday after play, which is when they will also get their new spellings.

There will also be **weekly homework**, which is handed out on a Friday and collected on Tuesday. This will usually be either a piece of Maths or English, which is usually a worksheet, connected with learning in class and helps to consolidate skills or prepare for new learning. It is intended that the children should be able to achieve independently, with minimal parental input. This type of homework should take no more than 30 minutes.

***And...the work that we will be covering this term includes:***

- English** We will be looking at different types of writing, using different books and texts, covering a variety of genres including: story writing, explanations poems, diary and recounts.
- Maths** Place Value and number calculations -Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division; including reasoning and problem solving.
- Science** Classification of Living Things; Sound
- Humanities** Stone Age, Iron Age; Volcanoes and Earthquakes
- RE -** The Creation Story, Noah, Abraham and Promises
- Art** 'Cave' painting and aboriginal art
- DT** Upcycling
- Computing** To be confirmed -since we no longer have a computing suite, this is yet to be agreed.
- PE** Developing sports skills in a variety of games
- Spanish** Useful greetings, numbers and Christmas vocabulary -please encourage your child to share their new words with you and members of the family.

**Trips**

We are looking into the possibility of a local trip to Ham Hill, avoiding transport. We have no details yet. We will inform you in the near future.

Yours

Linda Parkinson, Mandy Merrett, Buffy Fox