

Year 3 Newsletter

Autumn Term 1



Welcome to Year 3 and Key Stage Two.

We are all so excited to welcome your children back into school and we have lots of exciting topics planned for the year ahead. The Year 3 curriculum has been planned to harness the children's enthusiasm and curiosity while preparing them for life in our ever changing world. You can find out more about what your child will be learning this term and the Y3 routines and expectations in this newsletter.

The Year 3 Team

Mrs Mary Purchase	(Year Group Leader)	Mrs Jackie Gilbert (TA)
Mrs Toni McMillan	(Class Teacher)	Miss Emma Parker (TA)
Mrs Anna Ringrose	(Class Teacher)	Miss Meagan Kendrick (Apprentice TA)
Mrs Katie Cotton	(Numeracy Teacher)	Mrs Sam Mckenna (1:1)
		Ms Jess Frost (1:1)

TOMBS RAIDERS

A FEW CHANGES

There are a few changes to the daily routine now that the children are in Key Stage 2:

- ☺ There are no hot school meals provided in KS2 so all children will have to bring in a packed lunch. If they qualify for free school meals, then this will be provided in the form of a packed lunch.
- ☺ Lunch is now at a later time of 12:30. The children get quite hungry in the run up to lunch time so a snack for morning break is really useful to keep their brains fed and working until lunchtime. As there is no universal free fruit in KS2, your child will need to bring in their own healthy snack for morning break time, such as fruit, cheese, yogurt tubes etc.
- ☺ There is no afternoon break.
- ☺ As the children move into KS2, they start to move onto a different reading scheme. Some will continue on the Rising Stars reading scheme, where quizzes are found at the back of the books, while others will start on Renaissance Reader, where they will use a computer to quiz on each book.
- ☺ In KS2, maths is taught in mixed class groups, giving the children an opportunity to work alongside children from other classes. The learning outcome is the same in all groups, but the delivery of lessons may be adjusted to suit the different groups.
- ☺ At the end of the day, the children will no longer be released from the classroom to an adult. They will now leave the classroom independently and will meet you at the front of school. If they cannot find you, a staff member will always be there to stay with them until they have found someone. After waiting for a while, they will be taken to the front office if no one can be found.





Renaissance Reader

Once your child is reading at a suitable level, they will begin using the Renaissance Reading system which allows them to complete a reading assessment (quiz) on a computer after reading a book.

- 📖 Children sit a baseline assessment (on a computer) in order to decide the book levels which will offer an appropriate level of challenge for them.
- 📖 Almost every book published is on the system and is given a level. You may find that some of your books at home are on the system. Use this website to check: www.arbookfind.co.uk. If your home books are on your child's correct levels, they could read and quiz on them in school.
- 📖 After your child has *carefully* read their reading book, they can quiz on it. Most early readers have 5 questions to answer but as your child progresses they may have 10 questions to answer. Scoring 5/5 gives your child an accuracy of 100% (We aspire to having every child in school over 85% average accuracy). Please encourage your child to quiz only once ready! We ask that children do not quiz on the same day they get their book in order to have a good understanding.
- 📖 If your child has read and quizzed successfully on 5 books within their level, they can move up to the next set of levels which their teacher will set. On some levels, your child will need to read and quiz successfully on 10 books. This allows the children to read a good range of books.
- 📖 You will be given login details so that you can access the system at home to monitor your child's quiz scores. There is no facility to complete quizzes at home.
- 📖 Every quiz over 85% earns the children an entry into our 'Renaissance Raffle' with two lucky winners in each class each half term.
- 📖 We expect children to change their books themselves after a quiz, but remind and support them in the early days until they are confident.

Talk for Reading

This term we will be using a picture book, 'Flotsam' by Jeannie Baker, to develop the children's ability to infer meaning from images and texts. Inference and deduction skills will be crucial to support the children's move from decoding words in daily reading with an adult towards a more independent reading of more complex texts. In Year 3, there are lots of different ways we share texts. Children will read silently to themselves every day and individually to an adult at least fortnightly (often much more). We also enjoy group reading and whole class comprehension work.

Talk for Writing

In our writing lessons we will be focusing on a text called 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. We will be using this text to help us write our own conflict and resolution story with a focus on the characters within our story. Through our Talk for Writing lessons, we will also be teaching the children spelling and grammar. Our lessons will be filled with talking, actions and plenty of fun!

Numeracy

We will continue with our mastery curriculum in Maths following the Singapore approach to teaching. We will start by recapping the key skills taught in Year 2 followed by looking at place value and simple addition and subtraction. We ask the children to use Times Table Rock Stars to practice the speedy and accurate recall of times table facts and welcome your support at home with this. Each week, we will complete 3 TTRS sheets within class and will spend time practising chanting times tables.

Topic - Tomb Raiders!

RE, French & music will be taught in PPA sessions by Mrs Oliver, Mrs Fuller and Mrs Huesken respectively. In art, the children will practice different collage techniques, arranging items to create a striking effect before making their own landscape scene using techniques of their choosing.

In Science, we will be looking at our magnets and forces. This is quite a practical unit of work, giving the children plenty of opportunities to experiment with the magnets and investigate how they react to each other and other materials.

In History, we will be learning about Ancient Egypt by investigating Tutankhamun's tomb. We will be looking at all of the discoveries from his tomb and deciding what they tell us about life in Ancient Egypt.

In PE, each class will focus on a different sport, including football, hockey and tag rugby, looking at the different skills involved and culminating in a team game.

Please make sure named PE kit, with warmer layers for poor weather, is kept in school.

Homework

Numeracy: given to children on Monday, due back on Thursday.

Literacy: given to children on Thursday, due back the following Monday. The tasks for each half term are stuck into the children's homework books in advance for you to refer to.

If a child has a difficulty with a piece of homework, they should see their teacher before the hand in date! There is a Year 3 homework club each week which the children can attend if they would like some extra support.

Finally.... If you have any problems or concerns about your child's learning or wellbeing please do get in touch. We will be available at the front of school at the end of each day or you can email or ring the front office who will then pass any messages on to us.

Thank you,
The Y3 Team