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Wednesday 13th September, 2017

Year 3 - Class Newsletter - Autumn Term 1 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted by the excellent start the children have made to the new term. They have settled in very nicely and are showing lots of enthusiasm and interest in the curriculum.

The Year 3 team are:



Mr. MacBean



Mrs. Bernard



Mrs. Long



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Mrs. Cornell



Mrs. Smith

The best time to catch us is just before or after school.

Y3 Parents Information Session – 9.00 a.m. Friday 22nd September:

This is an opportunity for you to find out more about the curriculum in Year 3 and the ways in which teaching and learning are organised.

Reading:

We are grateful for your continuing support in the development of your child's reading. They benefit from your continuing enthusiasm; hearing them read at home, and showing your interest by talking about books and other forms of text is so beneficial.

In Year 3 we continue to adopt various organisational approaches to promote the development of reading skills:

Individual Reading:

The children have their individual books that can be chosen from the Library area. Your child will know which band of books they are allowed to choose from ("Jungle Red", "Forest Green" and "Tree Blue"). These are to be taken home and are the books that can make up the child's regular home reading. These should be kept in their book bags. We actively encourage parents to assist their children in selecting books before and after school, but the children will also have opportunities to change books during the school day such as before register, at break time and at lunch time. There will be occasions when a member of the Year 3 Team will hear your child read their individual book at school. It would be helpful if you could continue to make comments in your child's new "Reading Record Booklet".

Group Reading:

Your child will be reading four times a week in a group with children of a similar ability. They will also take part in other planned reading activities with their group each week. The selection of books and planning of these sessions will be done by me. For the delivery of these sessions, I will be supported by the members of the Year Three Teaching Team. Group Reading books will be sent home. Please can you make sure that they bring these back to school every day in their "Book Bags" as they will be needed for the next reading session.

Library Books:

The children will have an opportunity to choose other books from the Library. They can change or renew this on Wednesday. This is a free choice to reflect their personal interests.



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Class Blog:

The class blog is the best place to keep up with all the latest news, events and activities in Year Three. You can access this blog through our school website at: <http://www.princeofwales.dorset.sch.uk>, via our Facebook and Twitter (see the links on the school website) or via our school's iPhone App which is available to download in the App Store. We hope that you find this method of communication useful and encourage you to comment using the inbuilt tools. Other staff working with the Year Three Class may also make a comment relating to the children's work.

Using Online Tools for Home Learning:

We would like to encourage all pupils to access the online tools available through the school website. This will support home learning. We have provided login details and passwords for **"Reading Eggspress"**, **"Mathletics"** and **"Purple Mash"**. These will be stuck inside the back page of your child's "Reading Record Booklet". The children can also access different selected Websites (which relate specifically to work we are covering at school) by following the "Pupil Links" on the opening page of the School Website.

I would like to remind you of the school's policy on using the Internet at home, - which is to always supervise your child when using the Internet.

Other Home Learning:

I will be encouraging the children to do small pieces of written work and mathematical activities as "home learning" each week. They will be given a week (from Wednesday to Wednesday) for these tasks. These will be explained on paper-copy in the children's "book bags" and also detailed in Blogs on the Y3 Blog page. This will happen every week.

Spellings:

Every Wednesday, we will be sending the children home with "Spelling Lists". This will be a sheet of paper with 4 lists on it. The children will have a "test/quiz" on the words from the lists on the following Wednesday. The children should choose 2 lists that they feel they need to learn and should only be learning 2 lists from the selection of four. In other words, if they are learning the words on lists 3 and 4 then that is because they are confident that they can already manage the words on lists 1 and 2. Children in the past have enjoyed this approach. Spare copies of the "Spelling Lists" are available in the tray by the classroom door.

Snacks:

We are keen that the children have a healthy snack at Break Time. We are able to provide the children with some fruit, but you may like to supplement this for your child. We would like to positively encourage healthy snacks. Your child should put his/her snack in the "Snack Tray" when they arrive at school.

Water:

We are keen that the children should have access to water in the classroom as there is much evidence to support the idea that this helps them to learn. Please give your child a named water container. This can stay at school and they can top it up in the Servery when necessary. This is separate to the drink that you provide for their lunch.



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“Children’s Voice” Year 3 Representatives:

Our Year 3 School Council Reps this year are **Thomas Grant, Mai Hendrick, Jamie Bascombe and Matilda Mystry-Dyer**. The other children in the class are encouraged to take any issues they may have about school life to their Reps to be discussed at Council Meeting with Mrs. Thorpe.

Geology field visit to Abbotsbury:

You will receive a newsletter informing you about our class visits to Abbotsbury on **Tuesday 26th, Wednesday 27th September and Tuesday 3rd October**. Please fill in and return the reply slip as soon as possible. We would welcome all offers of support for these trips. Thank you.

Harvest Assembly:

At **10.00 am on Friday 29th September** we will be having an Assembly with the children in Year 3 and 4 to celebrate the Harvest Festival.

Year 3 Class Assembly:

Our Class Assembly this term is at 9.20 am on Friday 10th November.

Year Three Class Charter:

The children in Year 3 had a discussion about our classroom rules. They had to decide on some simple rules to help us to learn effectively and happily

We have collected their ideas and simplified them into these 6 rules:

Be the 7 Cs and think the 7 Cs

We treat everyone with kindness and respect.

We do our best, even when it’s hard.

We listen carefully to everyone.

We work and play fairly and include everyone.

We enjoy ourselves by doing the right thing.

Communication between School and Parents (Year 3):

Please feel that you can approach any of the Year 3 Team to discuss any issues, worries, concerns that you may have when you drop off and pick up your child.

If you would like to arrange a more detailed or confidential chat with me (DM), then I would be very happy to make an appointment to do so. From my experience it is always better to deal with any concerns as quickly as possible rather than wait until the Parents Consultation Evenings.

Do use email to contact me if this is more convenient.

My school email address is - d.macbean@princeofwales.dorset.sch.uk

The next Parents’ Consultation Interviews are on Tuesday 17th October (5.30-8.00) and Wednesday 18th October (3.45-5.45).



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This will be an opportunity to discuss your child's work.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. D. MacBean
Year 3 Class Teacher



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