



Jessie Younghusband School

Year 3 – Curriculum Letter – Autumn Term

Welcome to Year 3. I'm really looking forward to working with your children over the coming year, in partnership with you, to ensure that their first year in 'upper school' is a successful and happy one.

Clearly, 2020-21 will be a year quite unlike any other here at school, and I know many of you will be anxious about returning. We have put extensive plans in place to help ensure children can get back to school safely to be with their friends and to learn. Rest assured, we are committed to implementing these measures rigorously while also making sure school is a welcoming and happy environment for the children as well. Mrs. Sadler has emailed you with more detail on some of these measures, and I will of course be explaining these fully to the children. Should you have any questions or concerns about what we're doing, please do get in touch via email.

This curriculum letter will provide some useful information about the autumn term in Year 3. You can find out more detail about the specific areas of learning and curriculum content that the children will be studying this term on our school website (www.jys.org.uk) under the 'classes' tab.

This term's themes

Our first theme this year is 'Chichester Through Time', in which we will be focusing on History and Geography work as we explore our local community and its fascinating past, discovering some of the secrets held within the city walls. As part of this topic, we will be going on a local history walk with Paul Ullson on Friday 18th September. Further details about this trip will be sent out separately. After half term, we'll start our next theme 'Let There Be Light', which has a Science focus.

P.E.

P.E. lessons will be on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings for the first half term. Due to the situation we are in due to Covid-19. for the first half term, we are asking that children only bring in a change of shoes for PE (trainers preferably) which should be left in school all week from Monday morning, as the children may need them for lessons, clubs and ad-hoc sporting activities at different points during the week. The children will not be getting changed for P.E.

Reading

Regular reading is essential, daily if possible. This could include reading books (fiction and non-fiction), magazines, comics or anything else which takes their interest. In fact, the wider the range of genres that your child reads the better. We will begin to think this year about how to tailor writing for different audiences, purposes and genres, so reading a range of texts will help them really understand how writing differs depending on the context. Reading comment books will continue to be used to record reading progress – we really appreciate your continued effort here. Please encourage your child to put their reading comments book and reading book back in their book bags each night so that they are available during the school day.

Home Learning

Home Learning activities: to reduce the amount of paper and books being passed between home and school at this present time, we will not be setting formal “home learning” in the first autumn half term. Instead, we are encouraging children to read, learn their spellings, practice their times tables. If they would like to independently learn more about any of the topics they are studying in class, then we would encourage this.

Spellings: again, to reduce the number of items passing between school and home in the current climate, these will be posted on the school’s Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and can be accessed online. Spellings will be in place for Friday to be learnt ready for a test on the following Friday. This routine will begin soon.

Meet the Teacher

Previously, we would have held face to face meetings for parents to meet with their child’s new class teacher and hear some key information about the year ahead. This term, we have made short videos where we can share this information with you without the need for parents to come into school. An ‘Introduction to Year 3’ video, in which I introduce myself, show you around our classroom and talk about this term’s learning themes, can be found on our school website:

https://www.jys.org.uk/website/year_3/133443.

Should you have any questions, at the start of the year or at any time during it, please feel free to email me at Donald.Vass@jys.org.uk.

Year 3 Diary Dates

- **Friday 18th September – Local History Walk with Paul Ullson**
- **Monday 26th – Friday 30th October – Half term**

Miss Lomax, Mrs. Walker and I are all really excited to get to know your children and to help them to enjoy this year to the full. If you have any concerns or questions, please email me, or telephone the office to make an appointment if it is more convenient.

Best wishes,

Mr. Vass