



Class 3 Newsletter no.1 September 2020

Dear Parents and Children,
Welcome back to School and to a new start in Class 3! It has been a very unusual few months and I am sure that you are all looking forward to getting back to the routine of school as much as we are. Class 3 is new for all of you, but not for me, as I spent four years teaching in Class 3 before teaching the last three in Reception. This puts me in the fortunate position of knowing the Key Stage One curriculum well, in addition to knowing almost all of you from your time in Reception last year, or the year before. I am really excited to get started, especially as I know what a super bunch of children we have. We will of course be following handwashing, sanitising and social distancing measures, which is something we have all become accustomed to in recent months. We will be working hard to ensure that the children are safe, happy and secure in this new routine and we will continue to make learning as fun and exciting as possible.

Useful Information

What to bring to school each day:

Children should bring in their book bags containing their Reading Records and reading book into school. In Class 3, they will keep their book bags in their own drawers. Children also need to bring in a named water bottle every day. They will keep these on their desks and will bring them home at the end of school to be washed, ready for the next day. Previously, children have enjoyed bringing in things to show the class. These might be books, photographs or artefacts. We love seeing these things, but currently we ask that children only bring in their reading books, Reading Records and water bottles. If there is something really important that a child wishes to share, then this can be done through Seesaw and I will be able to show the whole class virtually.

The First Week

Our main focus during the first week back is to settle the children and familiarise them with all of the new routines. We will be revisiting our school golden rules including there are 'No- Outsiders'- everyone is included, which is now part of our rules. We will be discussing how we can make the world a better place linked to the book 'Only One You' by Linda Kranz. We will be getting to know each other as a class and creating a caring ethos where thoughts and worries can be shared.

Reading

Children take part in guided reading sessions with me each week. In addition to this, Year One Children and those at an early stage of reading will practise reading individually with a Teaching Assistant as often as possible. This will be done in a safe way with children being encouraged to record the pages they have read in their own reading records. Please send your child's Book Bag, containing their reading books and Reading Records, into school with them **each day**. This is so that adults in school can change children's reading books as regularly as possible and we will also be reading

each morning and afternoon as part of our daily routine, where we will monitor reading progress.

Changing Reading Books:

We will begin the year by changing the children's reading books twice a week. This may not be the same day for all children as we will need to do this in manageable groups. During the first week back, we would like everyone to hand in any reading books they have at home and also their old reading records. We will have a box in class which children can place their home readers on the days they change books. We will quarantine these books and put them back into the reading boxes ourselves. Children will receive their first new reading book and Reading Record on **Friday 11th September**.

PE:

Our PE Days in Class 3 will be **Mondays** and **Wednesdays** and the children will be coached by NUF every Wednesday during the Autumn term. As explained in the whole school Newsletter, children will need to come to school in their PE kits on the days that we have PE. PE Kit will be; joggers with or without shorts underneath, t shirts, trainers, hoodies or sweatshirts – these do not have to be uniform but the simpler the better. All of our PE will be **outside** and weather permitting we will use the school field whenever possible.

Homework:

This year, Homework will be set using Seesaw. The children will not be given homework books but instead, their work will be saved in their Seesaw folders. Homework will be set on a **Thursday** and we ask that it is completed by the following **Monday**. Tasks may vary from previous years with children sometimes being asked to send us videos or photographs. We will also be sending you, through Seesaw, a list of the Common Exception words that children in Year 1 or Year 2 will need to read and spell by the end of the year. We will be practising them in class but would appreciate these being learned at home too.

Phonics Screen:

At the end of Year 1, our current **Year 2s** would have normally completed a Phonics Screening check in June. This year, schools are being asked to screen **Year 2** children at some time in the second half of the autumn term. We will be assessing children in the first few weeks to see where we can support them further in their phonics and we will let you know if your child would benefit from extra support at home too. The **Year 1** Phonics screen will take place in June as it has done previously, again we will let you know if your child would benefit from extra support at home, once we have delivered all of the phonemes and have assessed the children's progress and readiness for the Phonics Screen.

Class Organisation:

As you will be aware, Class 3 is a mixed class, with some Year 1 children and some Year 2 children. All the classes in Key Stage 1 explore the same topics and tasks. Activities are differentiated according to the individual needs of each class and the individual children within the class. The children within Class 3 are grouped according to ability, it is ability and not age which is the major factor in deciding groups to enable us to address the needs of the individual children. We know the 'mixed age' class can seem a bit strange to begin with, but please be assured the children will cover the same content as the other Key Stage 1 classes and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Arriving at School:

Class 3 children should come into school through the Class 3 door, between 9-9.10am where they will sanitise their hands on the way in. As detailed in Ms McKenna's letter, they will be handwashing and sanitising regularly throughout the school day. The children will also wash their hands before leaving school at 3.25-3.35 and they will come out of the classroom door onto the yard.

Thank you to those of you who have already sent me baby pictures on Seesaw, they are already printed out and looking fabulous on our Science display. We look forward to seeing the rest of Class 3's beautiful baby pictures, so please do send them on Seesaw when you get the chance.

If you need to contact me with any queries or concerns, then please ring or email the school office. Thank you for your ongoing support and kind words. Fingers crossed, the months ahead will be disruption free and we can enjoy a happy and successful year in school with our super new Class 3!

Many thanks,

Sally McMillan

Curriculum information for English and Maths

English

Reading opportunities

In reading, children will listen to and discuss a range of Traditional Tales, Fairy Stories and stories based on places that children have been and are familiar with. They will also be reading and following instructions. Throughout the half term children will be:

- predicting and discussing events
- linking reading to their own experiences
- asking and answering questions about texts
- applying phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words
- reading accurately by blending sounds in unfamiliar words
- re-reading books to build up fluency and confidence in word reading

Writing opportunities:

In writing, children will learn to write their own story in the style of a Traditional Tale; write their own story set in places they have been and write simple sentences using imperative verbs.

Children will be:

- Combining words to make sentences
- Joining clauses using and
- Sequencing sentences to form short texts
- learning to write for a variety of purposes
- using adjectives to add detail
- writing imperative verbs
- learning to join letters and ensuring that they can form their letters correctly (please see joins below)
- spelling correctly by segmenting words
- using familiar and new punctuation correctly including full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks and commas for lists

Handwriting Joins:

Y2- *th, ch, ai, ay, ir, er, wh, oh, ow, ou*

Y1- Will be focussing on correct letter formation of all letters.

Spelling Focus:

- e is added to words ending in the v sound have, live, give
- making adjectives by adding -er and est (Grander, fresher, quicker)
- tch- after a single vowel letter catch, hutch. Except rich, which, much, such
- S and es to the end of words

Maths

Number- Place Value

Y1: Children will learn to:

- Count to twenty, forwards and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1, or from any given number
- Count, read and write numbers to 20 in numerals and words
- Given a number, identify one more and one less
- Identify and represent numbers using objects and pictorial representations including the number line and use the language of : equal to, more than, less than, most and least

Y2: Children will learn to:

- Read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals and in words
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a two digit numbers (tens, ones)
- Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations including the number line
- Compare and order numbers from 0-100; use < > and = signs
- Use place value and number facts to solve problems

Number- Addition and subtraction

Y1: Children will learn to:

- Represent and use number bonds and related subtraction facts within 20
- Read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving addition (+), subtraction (-), and equals (=) signs.
- Add and subtract one digit numbers to 20, including zero
- Solve one step problems that involve addition and subtraction, using concrete objects and pictorial representations and missing number problems

Y2: Children will learn to:

- Recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20 fluently, and derive and use related facts up to 100
- Add and subtract numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally, including: a two-digit number and ones; a two-digit numbers and tens; two two-digit numbers; adding three one-digit numbers
- Solve problems with addition and subtraction: using concrete objects and pictorial representations, including those involving numbers, quantities and measures; applying their increasing knowledge of mental and written methods
- Show that the addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot.
- Recognise and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and use this to check calculations and solve missing number problems.

