



## Autumn Term Newsletter 1: Year 3

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 3! We are really impressed with how well the children are already settling into their new classroom and taking on board all of the new routines. Your child will be taught by Miss Wilson and our teaching assistant this year is Mr Best.

Our aim is to ensure that the children experience a smooth transition from Year 2 to Year 3.

To support the children in their return to school, we have been using the first few weeks to settle and re-establish routines. Our main focus has been getting to know the children as individuals, ensuring that they feel safe and secure at school. To do this we have been taking time to understand our school rules and what being 'Ready', 'Respectful' and 'Safe' means for them. We have also been thinking about values and our big question of the year – 'Who do you want to become?' – What sort of character would you like to have?

We have spent the last few weeks looking at the curriculum with our classes to ensure that we know exactly where the children are now in their learning. We have spent time 'remembering' learning so that we can now continue with our Year group curriculum. The Year group Curriculum overview can be found on the class page of the school website.

### English / Phonics

This term, we will be looking at 'The Book of Hopes' linked to our re-connection curriculum and then move on to 'Here we Are' by Oliver Jeffers. We will be focusing on sentence structure, verb form, using correct punctuation, speech and the effect our writing has on a reader.

You can find the expectations of a Year 3 writer and other useful links on the 'Year 3 Information' page on the school website.

### Maths

In Maths this half term, we will be looking back at our learning from Year 2 and ensuring children are secure with their basic maths knowledge before continuing with the Year 3 learning. We will be covering a range of units, starting with number and place value, moving on to addition and subtraction and then multiplication and division.

You can also find the Year 3 Maths overview and some useful links on the 'Year 3 Information' page on the school website.

### Digital Learning

This term we will be focusing on ensuring that all children can access and are able to use Google classrooms to access and upload learning. This is of great importance at this moment in time but is also a recognised skill and platform used by many schools / colleges and professions in later life.

Should your child need to be absent from school due to illness or having covid-19 symptoms, we will support their learning using Google classrooms.

We would please ask that you let us know if your child is not able to access Google classrooms at home so that we can support you in this.

### Knowledge Organisers

We will be introducing Knowledge Organisers to children from Year 2 up.

A Knowledge organiser is a single A4 sheet that sets out the core knowledge ('powerful knowledge') that pupils will learn in a given topic.

They can be used as a quizzing and assessment tool to help pupils recall of key knowledge.

The knowledge organisers will support you in knowing what it is that your child is learning, investigating, discovering in topic, science and RE (KS2).

These Knowledge Organisers will be introduced to your child in school and they will be on the class pages of our website for the term. Sometimes home learning, will be to find out further information about a key fact on a knowledge organiser.

We will also be using these as part of our remote learning offer, should a child or pod need to self-isolate.

### **Supporting your child at home.**

This year, we are not sending home reading diaries, but children are still expected to read for at least 20 minutes every day at home. Children can complete Accelerated Reader quizzes at home, but we do allow time for this in school and for children to change their books. If children are completing these at home, please ensure that they are reading and answering the questions independently. Each week, the children will be given 10 new spellings. We will go through these in class but ask that they also practice their spellings at home. They can do this on spelling shed or using a range of other techniques, please see the school website for ideas. The children also have access to TTRS, they need to practise their times tables each week. In Year 3, they are expected to know their 2s, 5s, 10s, 3s, 4s, 6s and 8s and know the related division facts.

### **Other key information**

- Please could your child come into school every day with a named water bottle.
- We will be keeping active throughout the week but would ask that children be sent to school wearing their PE kits on Monday and Wednesday which are our scheduled PE times. The children will be able to wear this all day with their school jumpers.
- Your child needs a named art shirt / large t-shirt as we are not able to share Art overalls at this present time.
- It would be very helpful for the children to have wellington boots in school if they do not have these already. Waterproof coat & leggings would also be great and would mean that children can access all areas of our grounds throughout the year – whatever the weather. We are very keen for the children to be able to enjoy and spend quality time outside.
- As our times of days and break times differ across the school, some children are getting quite hungry by their break time. Please provide a **piece of fruit** for them to have at break if they want it.
- We will be using Google Classroom this year, please see the class page for information on how to login at home.

If you have an immediate concern please contact the office by phone or email. If you would like to have direct contact with me then I will be checking our class email address weekly and can be contacted using [year3@st-sidwells-ce.devon.sch.uk](mailto:year3@st-sidwells-ce.devon.sch.uk).

Kind regards,  
Miss Wilson