

Year 3 Autumn Term

September 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! For those parents/guardians who I have not had the opportunity to meet, I would like to introduce myself as your child's year 3 teacher and Miss Blunn as our learning support practitioner. I hope you had a lovely summer holiday and you are ready to begin working hard in year 3. We have some exciting learning coming up during the next year and below is the key curriculum information for this term.

English

To start off the new year we will spend some time working on basic skills including word classes and building sentences. We will be exploring a range of fiction and non-fiction texts during the autumn term which will link to our history topic. Throughout the term, children will have the opportunity to complete an extended piece of writing to practise the process of planning, drafting and making improvements to their own work as well as their peers. Writing will also be developed through the curriculum. Our text for this term in English will be The Stone Age Boy.

Guided reading will continue to take place each week and home reading books will be allocated to each pupil. Children will be working on a class text during guided reading sessions as well as isolated extracts. Our class text for this term is The Book of Brilliant Bugs. Please remember to record any reading in your child's reading record where possible.

GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) will be also be taught throughout English lessons. There is a huge emphasis on spelling in the year 6 SATs and we want to prepare the children well in advance therefore it is crucial that children are learning their spellings at home each week. Phonics intervention lessons will also take place daily for those children who need it to be able to close any gaps in their knowledge.

Handwriting will be practised throughout the week in school with the focus letter joins changing regularly. Your child will have the opportunity to earn a handwriting pen which will be given out by Mrs Crozier and Mrs Higham-Jones. When I feel your child is ready for a pen they will have to prove to Mrs Crozier and Mrs Higham-Jones that their handwriting is consistently neat with the correct joins across all subjects. Handwriting pens can also be taken away from children if their handwriting becomes inconsistent.

Maths

The topics that will be covered in maths during the autumn term are:

- ✓ Place value
- ✓ Addition and Subtraction
- ✓ Multiplication and division

Throughout lessons, children will explore reasoning and problem solving to help them to develop a deeper understanding of maths within each unit. Each week children will have a times tables test which takes place on a Tuesday. Times tables are a big focus in Year 3 to prepare children for the test they will need to take towards the end of year 4.

Each child has been given a Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) login which they can use at home. They will also be able to practise their maths recall through their Numbots account which was introduced to them last year. Please make use of this facility as it is available on a range of devices including laptops, desktop computers, ipads, android tablets, mobile phones etc. It is FREE for you to use with the log in we have provided you with.

History

Our autumn term topic will be the Stone Age through to the Iron Age. The children will begin by exploring what prehistory is and to be able to understand what BC and AD are. They will also be ordering events in chronological order. The children will also be exploring Stonehenge and the mysteries surrounding it. To finish the topic, children will explore what lives are like during each period, making comparisons between each period.

Art

During the first half term, the children will be exploring charcoal and drawing. The children will look at artists such as Laura McKendry and Degas, and have the opportunity to produce a piece of work using charcoal in response to music. Sketch book skills will be practised in addition to the art lesson during one registration period each week.

Design and Technology

After half term, children will be developing their sewing skills. They will be building on the sewing techniques that they learnt last year as well as learning new stitches such as cross stitch. Later in the topic, they will be creating a product for a client that incorporates everything they have learnt across the topic.

Science

During this term, children will be learning about properties of rocks, including how they and fossils are formed before moving onto exploring animals and humans, including how bones and muscles work. These lessons will be extending on the children's knowledge of concepts that they learnt about during their previous years within the school. They will begin to write scientific reports about what they have learnt with the experiments we do in class. This will be good practise for further report writing that will be completed in later years.

French

Children will learn to pronounce, write and read French vocabulary. They will begin by looking at basic French words and phrases based around colour, number and family members. Children will engage with language through catchy songs and illustrated stories.

PE

PE will be taught on Monday and Tuesday afternoons. Please make sure your child has removed any jewellery before school. Any earrings must be removed or covered with plasters sent in from Home.

Music

Children will be learning how to play the trumpet as a class with tuition from Miss Churchill. Trumpets are provided by the school and a letter about the children taking them home to practise is to follow in December with more information about their learning. We hope to perform a few pieces for all parents by the end of the year. We will also be setting aside some time in the school day to practise for the Young Voices Concert in January 2025 (further details to follow soon).

RE

This term the children will be exploring Sikhism and looking at what it means for a Sikh to be a Sikh. WE will find out about their beliefs and compare and contrast them to other religions.

PSHE

To begin the new term the focus in PSHE will be based on the theme of 'Being me in my world'. This will support children in settling back into school after the summer as well as supporting children to adapt to year 3. We will then move onto learning out celebrating differences after half term.

Computing

This term the children will be learning about Networks and how computers are connected and connect us to each other. WE will have online safety sessions each week where questions will be asked and we will find solutions as a class.

Homework

Homework will be handed out each Monday and should be completed by the following Thursday. Some homework will be online so please check with me if you cannot find passwords etc.

Spellings

Children will be given a spelling test every Friday. They will be told which spelling to practise and will also have sessions in class to practise them too.

Times Tables

It is also important that the children practise their times tables as this is now assessed in a mandatory test towards the end of Year 4. They can do this using Times Table Rock Stars. Each child has a login sent home and provides them with a fun and engaging way to practise their Times Tables as well as adapt to focus on the tables each child isn't as confident with. Please contact me if you do not have your child's log in for this website.

Reading

Please read a little every night and record it in the reading record. This can be the home reading book, comics, environmental print/packaging, non-fiction books, fiction books, etc. Literally any reading is good reading!

Please can you also ensure that your child brings a refillable drink bottle to school with them every day.

If you have any questions or concerns about year 3 please do not hesitate to contact me face to face or via the CLASS EMAIL: year3.als@annielennard.sandwell.sch.uk . I look forward to the year ahead.

Thank you for your continued co-operation and support.

Mrs Whitehurst and Miss Blunn

