



St Mary's C of E Primary School
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Head Teacher: Miss Sarah Gray

September 2026

Dear Families of Year Three,

I hope you all had a good summer break and enjoyed the beautiful weather. It has been great to see all the children back in school and to get to know them this week. 😊

Below is some information about the Autumn term in Year 3. I look forward to seeing you at 'Meet the Teacher' which is Monday 14th September at 2:45pm in the Year 3 classroom. (Slides will also be posted on Google Classroom and the school website)

Staffing

Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	Mrs Tavender	Mrs Tavender
Tuesday	Mrs Tavender	Mrs Tavender
Wednesday	Mrs Tavender	Mrs Dobbs
Thursday	Mrs Tavender	Mrs Tavender
Friday	Mrs Dobbs	Mrs Dobbs

PE KITS

Swimming will be every Monday and Tuesday. On these days children can come to school in their school P.E. kits. They will be outside as much as possible so need to come in full, named, school P.E. kits including trainers and tracksuits/joggers.

Earrings and jewellery **cannot** be worn for P.E. so please remove earrings on P.E. days – Mondays and Tuesdays. If children have earrings on they will be asked to remove them so please ensure they are able to do this independently.





KEY STAGE 2

Now that the children have reached KS2, there are a few notable differences. Firstly, children are able to bring their own **healthy snack** from home. We encourage them to bring **fruit** or vegetables as these release energy over a period of time, helps children to regulate blood sugar and aids focus. Due to allergies, no products with nuts or strawberries will be allowed. Children have their snacks before break time which is between 10:45am and 11:00am. Lunch will remain at 12 - 13:00.

In Year 3, children also begin to learn French and a musical instrument. This year, children will learn to play the recorder, with Ms. Forsyth on Fridays.

HOMEWORK

Homework will be set every Thursday and should be handed in by the following Tuesday. Tasks will continue to be set via the Google Classroom and we ask that children complete activities in their Homework books with a pencil. Please check what your child is doing for their Homework and encourage neat presentation as we would in school.

There is a Homework club with Mrs Dobbs each Friday between 3:20pm and 4:15pm for children who are unable to complete their homework at home or need additional support. Places are limited so please apply promptly via the school office.

Homework tasks will include Maths, spelling and reading comprehension activities. These should be completed in addition to daily reading.

READING

Reading continues to be a priority. As children develop confidence and fluency, many prefer to read alone. Whilst we encourage this and want the children to develop independence and a love of reading, we still ask that families read together as well. This enables children to benefit from adult support with correcting pronunciation, checking understanding and learning new vocabulary.

We also encourage families to model reading, for example with a bedtime story. This allows children to see how texts should be read and helps longer books to progress quickly in order to maintain interest.

Please still send in reading books and records each day for us to monitor. The children will be changing their reading books as they finish them or when they read with an adult.





SPELLINGS

The children will be having regular spelling sessions aiming to build on and improve spelling of both High Frequency words and spelling rules and patterns. We will use phonics and spelling rules to do this.

Each week the homework will include some spelling based on the spelling patterns we have been practicing. Once we have practiced a few patterns, we have whole class spelling practices, recapping the rules we have learnt. The children will be asked to write down sentences containing the patterns along with High Frequency words.

We will discuss how the children have done as a whole class and give them the opportunity to learn from any mistakes without any pressure or worry.

TOYS AND PERSONAL ITEMS

Toys should not be brought into school. On limited occasions, a child may be permitted to bring a small transition or comfort item to support them with coming into school and regulating their emotions. This will only be agreed in advance with the class teacher and a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Some children may also benefit from sensory or fiddle resources to support their regulation, attention or focus. **Children should not bring sensory or fiddle toys from home.** Where these are identified as helpful or appropriate, suitable resources will be provided by the school.

NOTICES

As we move into the colder months and coughs and colds start up again we would be grateful of any donations of boxes of tissues in year 4.

Year 3 have already settled really well and have started earning pebbles in their jar. I will let you know when they have filled the Pebble Jar and what their chosen treat is but we may also have time nearer Christmas to watch a movie. This will be a U rated festive film!

As always, if your child is going home with someone other than yourself please let me know via the Year 3 email or via the office.





Mornings tend to be very busy by the classroom doors so please encourage your child to come to the classroom independently from the lower playground and this will leave room for the younger children on the top playground. Thank you.

CONTACTING US

If you have any questions or queries about your child or Y3 please contact me via the Year 3 email - year3@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk . I will be checking the emails every day so you can also send me any notes about different pick up arrangements etc. (Alternatively you can send messages via the school office - email or phone call).

Many thanks

Mrs L Tavender

