



OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
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September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the summer holidays. I am really pleased with how well the children have settled in at the start of this term. This is a brief introductory letter to give you some information and to let you know about the variety of activities that we have already planned for our Year 3 class.

We have 28 children in the class this year. Our teaching assistants this year are Mrs Green (Monday-Wednesday) and Mr Pinder (Thursday and Friday). Miss Morgan and Mrs Cable-Alexander will also be working with us throughout the week. Mrs Bushnell will be teaching the class on a Wednesday afternoon whilst I have my PPA time. On a Wednesday afternoon, our class also have their violin/ cello lesson taught by a teacher from the Oxfordshire County Music Service. Further information will be sent out regarding loaning of instruments.

Fortnightly, Miss Browne will be teaching the class Spanish and Computing on a Thursday afternoon.

Our PE sessions are currently on a Monday and Friday afternoon. Children need to bring their PE kit to school on these days including trainers. Please can long hair be tied back and all jewellery, including earrings, taken off.

Homework will be set via Google Classroom on Fridays. This year we have a new Google Classroom page. There should be an email on your child's Google Account with a link to join. Year 3 homework will include regular reading at home (approximately 5 times a week for around 10 minutes). For reading at home, I will continue to send out reading books but you can still continue to access the Oxford Owl site for further reading books online.

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

This year we will continue to have paper Reading Records. Teaching staff will add comments to these when they have heard your child read in school. Please could you do the same at home and ensure that children have their book and Reading Record in school each day. This will help us to see how your child is getting on and if there are any concerns you have. If your child has lost their Reading Record then let me know and I will provide them with new ones in due course.

The children will also have the opportunity to practise spellings linked to the Year 3 spelling patterns outlined in the National Curriculum via Spelling Shed. In class Spelling tests will take place in class on a Friday. There may be times when you think spellings are too easy but sometimes children learn to spell a word in isolation which they continue to misspell in their daily written work.

Multiplication times tables are practised in school but to really be secure in these, children also need to be practising them at home. I will be setting regular times table practise for homework using Times Table Rockstars (TTRS). Knowing their times tables and being fluent in their recall will help with so many aspects of maths in KS2. The government expects that all children in Year 4 will undergo a multiplication times tables check so practising times tables in Year 3 is a great start to preparing for this.

I will always go through homework before it is set and ensure that the children understand what they need to do. It is important for the children to learn to work at home but they should not be so burdened that they cannot pursue other interests. We would be grateful for support with homework.

We are currently learning about The Stone Age to the Iron Age and will continue to focus on this throughout the Autumn Term. In Spring we will begin looking at the Romans and in Summer we will be focussing on Mountains and Volcanoes. For more

information, the draft Long Term plan for Year 3 2023-2024 can be found on the Year 3 Windrush Class area of the school website and can be accessed via this link: <https://appleton.oxon.sch.uk/windrush-year-3.html>

I really look forward to working with you this year to ensure the best possible progress in your child's learning. If you have any queries or concerns, please do let us know by phoning or emailing the school office or contacting me directly via Gmail/ Google Classroom.

Best wishes,

Sophie Raven