

## Class 3 Newsletter - September 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Class 3 and to another academic year! I hope you are all well and have had a fantastic summer.

To start off the year, the children in Class 3 will be embarking on an exciting historical journey to 'Ancient Egypt' (our first topic), within which the children will cover the key skills and objectives required by the new National Curriculum for Geography, History, Art and DT. In science, the children will start by learning about light and shadow and in RE will -until Christmas- be studying 'Christianity in Action'. Strong links to the topic of 'Ancient Egypt' will be made in Literacy to create a clear purpose for writing. For instance, in the next few weeks we will be creating mummies to inspire our instructional writing before writing Egyptian adventure stories later on in the term. Topic based writing will continue throughout the year as we discover more about what happens 'Under the Sea' and in 'Our Local Area' as well as learning about 'Volcanoes' and 'The Romans'. We will hold around 3 parent shares over the year to show you all the exciting things we have been up to. In the spring term we will also get to experience the much-loved residential trip to Everdon! ☺

In their lessons, children have been put into flexible groups for Numeracy, Writing, Reading as well as having set table or 'home' group, which will form their working group during topic and science lessons. Excitingly, now that the children are entering Class 3, they will also begin to learn French on Wednesday mornings.

Within the class, children have individual trays in which they can keep their reading records and books, as well as having coat pegs outside the classroom. Coats and PE bags must be kept on their named peg, with lunch boxes and drinks bottles going underneath the cloakroom benches. Book bags and jumpers are kept inside the classroom in home table boxes as this makes it much easier to return items to their owner. Having said that, please ensure that all your child's clothes and belongings are clearly named. PE kits will be needed every Tuesday and Wednesday this year and with winter months approaching they will need to bring in warmer kit, including jumpers and trousers, and more enclosed trainers from now on.

As the children are now entering Key Stage 2, we try to encourage more independence. In the morning, please drop your child off in the playground and they can then enter the new doors and put their own items away independently. Similarly, at the end of the day, children will be able to leave the classroom unescorted when the teacher or TA has seen their parent or guardian. We make it clear to the children that they should come back to class if they cannot see their adult.

In terms of the homework expectations for Year 3, each week they will receive spellings and times tables to practise (for a quiz the following Monday) and on alternate weeks they will be given a Literacy, Numeracy or 'Learning Log' (scrap book) task. Homework will be explained and demonstrated in full before it is given out on the Friday and will be due in by the following Wednesday.

Overall, moving up to Class 3 should be an exciting new adventure for all of your children! If you have any questions, please come and see me before or after school.

**I will be holding a short information evening on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 3:30pm in Class 3 where I shall give you further details and information about the year ahead. I hope that you will all be able to attend and I look forward to meeting you all soon.**

Best wishes,  
Miss Connell