

Year 3 Newsletter

Autumn 2025

Welcome to Year 3. We hope that this year will be a great one for your child and that they are able to make amazing progress and enjoy doing so. Happy children learn. We welcome your feedback so please, if you have anything that you need to discuss contact us via the school office. We look forward to working with you throughout the year.

Theme for this term - Chocolate Challenge— we have been set a series of challenges by the Minister of Chocolate which will, if completed to his satisfaction, ensure that we win a 'A Day of Chocolate.' Information about this is in a separate letter. Most of our curriculum will link to this series of challenges. In addition, we will be practising outdoor and adventurous sport and finding out about the Creation story and what it is like to follow God from a Christian perspective, as well as beginning Spanish.

PE and Outdoor learning (Forest School).

PE will take place twice a week, usually on a Monday afternoon and a Thursday morning. We ask that your child's PE Kit is available in school throughout the week.

We will teach PE both inside and out, so it is important that your child has the correct kit for both activities, this includes:

Black shorts/skorts, a white t-shirt, black tracksuit and trainers. Please no football kits or brightly coloured joggers and hoodies.

Your child's clothes and footwear **must all be named** and in a strong bag, not a carrier bag. We aim to send PE kit home at the end of each week so that it can be washed. Please remember to return it on Monday morning. Thanks.

Long hair **must** be tied up so please ensure your child has a hair bobble for this.

Your child may take part in Outdoor learning in Forest School, at specific times throughout the year, we will let you know when this is due to happen with a reminder of the type of kit your child requires.



The Team

Teachers: Miss Campbell, Mrs Griffith

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Hooper, Mrs Griffin, Mrs Blackwood

PPA/Management time

Team: Mrs Roebury, Miss Joy

Reading

Your child should now be bringing home a Reading Journal and reading book to read to you. Please continue to read with your child as often as possible, **every night is ideal**, but there is no pressure to complete a whole book every night!

It is important that you continue to write in the Reading Journal **every time** you read with your child, we really value your feedback (examples of comments can be found inside the journal). Your child's book will not be changed without such a comment. It is okay for your child to write in the journal with their thoughts too. Your child should bring both their reading journal and their book to school **every day** even if they have not finished reading it.

We will endeavour to provide a change of reading book for your child as often as they need one—if your child is working through a scheme this will be adult guided. Once your child becomes a 'Free Reader' we expect them to become a little more independent, we will remind them to change their books but welcome your encouragement with this as well, their choices will be guided to some extent.

'Stuff from home' -

We ask that your child does not bring in things from home, this includes pencil cases and toys. If your child has something linked to the theme that they would like to share with the class, then they may bring this in, but please check with their class teacher first.

E-Safety

Our children are growing up in a digital world and are likely to be spending increasing amounts of time online as they get older. In order to help them remain safe online and understand both the benefits and potential risks of the internet, we do lots of age-appropriate work around e-safety in our computing lessons and within PSHCE. In addition, we send out an e-safety newsletter to parents/carers each month to keep you up to date with online safety risks, issues, advice and guidance related to keeping children safe online. Please take time to read this and where necessary, have any conversations with your children about the content to ensure they are able to enjoy technology safely and age-appropriately and know what to do if they experience something which worries them online.

Please follow this link to see any past newsletters and other useful E-Safety information.

<https://www.lyppardgrange.worcs.sch.uk/online-safety/>

Snack and drinks

Children are asked to bring in a healthy snack for break times. Ideally, this should be a fruit or vegetable snack, a cereal bar or a yogurt tube but one item a day is sufficient. **No nut based (this includes Nutella) products or kiwi fruit are allowed due to allergies amongst children and staff.**

Please keep all items for lunch in a separate box.

It is essential that all bottles and containers are named, as one snack pot looks very much like another!

We ask that drinks and snacks are not transported in book bags as liquids can escape and ruin the contents.

We encourage your child to stay hydrated throughout the day so please ensure that they bring a drink with them each day. **We prefer the children to drink water in the classroom as this is a healthier option.**



Special Educational Needs

As a community school we welcome and provide for all children regardless of their culture, background or special educational needs. If you have any concerns about your child's individual needs please contact us so that we can arrange a time to discuss these with us in the first instance or our school SENDCo (Special Educational Needs co-ordinator), Mrs Edwards.

We ask that you respect every family and their needs by showing your tolerance and acceptance of every child within our school, especially in front of your own children. If you have any concerns about the behaviour or support given to individual children we would be happy to discuss our policy with you further.

Birthday Treats

If you want to provide birthday treats for your child's class then please ensure that these are **free from nuts.** Please also be aware that some children cannot eat products containing gelatine such as Haribo.



End of day routines

We dismiss children one-by-one at the end of the day to ensure their safe return to you. In order for this to run as smoothly as possible we ask that you wave **only** when your child is at the front of the line. Whilst we appreciate that this is a good time to converse with other parents, it is essential that your child has made eye contact with you before leaving our side.

Whilst we do our utmost to ensure that every child has all of their belongings at the end of a day, there may be times when they need to re-enter the building to collect a forgotten item. Please wait until every child has been dismissed before sending your child back inside..

Should there be a change to any of your usual pick up arrangements please let us know as soon as possible so that we can ensure your child is safe.

Correspondence

All correspondence will be sent home via your child or email so please check this daily. Similarly please ensure that any communication about your child (e.g. changes in collection arrangements, letters explaining absence, trip consents) are handed to Mrs Norwood in the office or given directly to your child to hand in to their teacher. We do not check book bags so please make sure your child is aware of anything that they need to hand in.



Earrings and Jewellery

Hair and Jewellery Hair should be in a style which is smart, safe and suitable for school. Long hair for both girls and boys must be tied back with appropriate bobbles or hair bands. Jewellery is not suitable for school. Children who have pierced ears are permitted to wear a single set of studs. Multiple earrings, hoops or earrings that dangle are not permitted. Earrings need to be removed or taped during PE sessions and swimming. To ease this, we suggest that parents book ear piercing appointments for early in the summer holidays so that earrings can be removed for PE/swimming when school starts in September. Children are not permitted to wear nail varnish or make-up. Children may wear a simple watch, however smart watches are only permitted in Years 5 and 6 with written parental consent.

'Reach for the Stars' Zone Board

This is part of our whole school Positive Relationship and Behaviour policy. Every child begins the day on the 'Sunshine'. When they are spotted doing the right thing, such as following instructions or being kind to others, they are rewarded by moving up to the rocket, and subsequently up to the stars. If they have reached the stars by the end of the day, the children are given a star sticker which they stick onto their collection card. Once a child has earned 10 star stickers, they receive a 'Star Voucher' which will be kept safely for them by the class teacher in the 'Star Bank'. Children can then trade their vouchers for items from Mr Groves' 'Star Shop'. Children are encouraged to consider whether they wish to 'spend' or 'save' their vouchers.

If a child is struggling to make the right choices, they will be moved to the grey 'Choice Cloud' where they will be reminded of the choices they can make regarding their behaviour. As soon as they make the right choice they move back to wherever they had already reached on the zone board.

If they continue to struggle to make the right choice or find themselves in a 'stormy moment', they will be moved to the Storm Cloud where they will be supported by an adult to return to the sunshine. All Storm Cloud incidents are recorded; if they become a cause for concern, we will contact you so that we can work in partnership to support your child with their choices.

Rewards

When children achieve their targets, do something for the very first time or do their very best work they may be put onto 'Gold'. They then receive a special mention and a gold sticker in Congratulations Assembly which will be held on Friday mornings. From each class, an individual child's success is also celebrated. If your child is chosen, this will be communicated to you via email on the Wednesday before the assembly. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.

KS 2 Congratulations Assemblies are on Friday at 9.00am.

Homework

Following a review of the timetable in every year group, a school-wide adaptation is being made to homework. Currently, the setting and reviewing of homework takes between 30 to 60 minutes a week. This homework is then completed inconsistently, with some children putting a lot of time into their work and others not completing it all. Therefore, the decision has been made that the hour currently used for homework would be better spent delivering an additional lesson. There are also two key areas of the curriculum where children really benefit from daily practice, so we feel it is better for parents and carers to really focus on these rather than trying to complete a wider set of homework where these two key aspects can be forgotten. From this September, each week we would like every child to complete the following:

Reading.

Your child should read for 10 minutes or more every day. This reading activity needs to be recorded in your child's reading journal, as this will ensure we can work together to track progress.

Times tables.

This comes in two parts. First, your child needs to spend time learning the times table that we have set them. Each child will have a different times table and their learning will be checked through the use of a weekly times table challenge.

Second, your child is expected to complete a minimum of 10 minutes of TTROCKSTARS activity over the course of the week. This will be in the form of Garage sessions, which will be set on Friday evenings and needs to be completed by the following Wednesday morning. We will continue to award tokens which will be added to the class total each week and will hopefully earn your child's class the honour of being the TTROCKSTARS champions for the term.



Hopefully this guide will help you become familiar with the learning, expectations and activities in Year 3. We hope that your child's year will be extremely successful, fun-filled and enjoyable. We truly appreciate the high levels of support that children receive at home, as it really does help them to achieve in class. If you would like to talk to us about anything regarding your child's education or welfare please contact us via the office.