

# Year 3 Newsletter

Autumn 2024

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 are sure you will know by now that 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 Jewish festivals as well as starting to learn Spanish.

## PE and Forest School.

PE will take place twice a week, usually on a Monday morning and Friday afternoon, so 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:

Green or black shorts/skorts, a white t-shirt, black or other dark coloured tracksuit or similar 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. PE kit will be sent 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 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.

## 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/>

## The Team

**Teachers:** Miss Campbell,  
Mrs Griffith

**Teaching Assistants:**  
Mrs Hooper, Miss Yapp, Miss Taylor

**PPA/Management time**

**Team:** Mrs Stevens,  
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 if you can, but there is no pressure to complete a 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.

### 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 SENCo (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.



### Reading Helpers

At Lyppard Grange, we are passionate about reading and endeavour to share books with children as often as possible to foster this enthusiasm in them too. If you are able to support children with their reading in school then keep an eye out for information that will be coming home soon with details of how you can volunteer. Reading is a key skill across all aspects of education so the more support the children receive the closer they will be to become a life long reader and lover of books and stories.

### 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) is 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

For Safety: If your child has their ears pierced then, whilst at school, we ask that they only wear simple studs. Your child will be asked to remove their earrings when taking part in a PE lesson. It is therefore probably easier for them not to wear earrings at all on these days. As shared above, our regular PE days are Monday and Wednesday. Unfortunately, we cannot remove or replace earrings. Should your child be unable to remove earrings due to them being recently pierced we ask that you provide a roll of named surgical tape to cover them. If these guidelines are not followed then your child will be unable to take part in the PE lesson. Thank you for your understanding.

With the exception of a watch we ask that children do not wear any other jewellery, this includes friendship bracelets.

### **'Reach for the Stars' Zone Board**

This is part of our whole school 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.

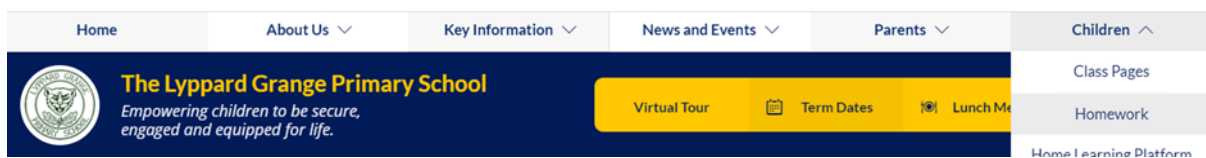
If a child is struggling to make the right choices, they will be moved to the grey 'Choice Cloud' where they will be reminded of the choices they can make regarding their behaviour. As soon as they make the right choice they move back to wherever they had already reached on the zone board.

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.

### **Homework**

The partnership between home and school is extremely important and homework is just one of the ways in which we seek to foster this partnership. Homework is essential in supporting the children's development as independent learners.

We upload homework to the school website. Please click on 'Homework' which can be found under the 'Children' tab (pictured below). Select your child's year group and select the appropriate week. From here, you can download and print your child's homework or they can complete it from the screen. If accessing homework electronically is problematic for you, please speak to your child's class teacher.



Each Friday, children will be sent home with their homework book, within which they can do any working out or writing necessary to complete their tasks. Homework is due back in by the following Wednesday. At the end of each week, children will take part in a whole class feedback session with their class teacher to discuss the homework that they have completed. Children who have not completed homework will be given the opportunity to complete it in school, but please note that this will happen during their own time.

### **Daily reading**

Daily reading is the first form of homework we expect your child to complete; children should spend at least ten minutes each day reading their scheme reader or free reader book. We recommend that children still read aloud to an adult when they become free readers in order to develop their expression and intonation. And children of any age always benefit from being read to. Your child can also access books online using Bug Club, this is an excellent resource and offers an alternative way of reading. When your child reads using this format please encourage them to complete the 'Bug' tasks that appear on the page.

### **Mental Maths Challenge**

Every week your child will take part in a mental maths challenge and we ask that you help your child to practise daily the skill we have challenged them to. In Year 3 the maths challenge involves your child learning a given times table and the corresponding division facts. This recall needs to be rapid, your child will have 5 seconds to answer each question, they will need to score 20/20 in two consecutive challenges in order to move up to the next level. We will send home a slip with the details of which times table we need you to work on with your child, please focus only on this and previously learnt timetables. You should also encourage your child to complete at least 10 minutes of TTRockstars homework online using TTRockstars, log ins have been re-issued —this form of homework helps to develop the fast accurate recall that is needed, but is important that your child challenges themselves and doesn't just choose the easy option! (Please see Times table letter)

### **Other homework**

Each week, we will set another piece of homework for your child to complete. This may be based around a different curriculum area each week; we will decide what will be most useful for children to practice, revise or pre-learn on a weekly basis.

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.