

Class Three Welcome Letter

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the start of a new year in Class Three.

Staff

This year, Ms Ovigne will be working on Mondays, Tuesdays and, Wednesday mornings. Mrs Wood will be in class on Wednesday afternoons and all day Thursday and Friday. Mrs Cox and Mrs Hoskins will be working with groups throughout the week.

PPA time

You will note on the timetable there are periods marked PPA time. This is the teacher's Planning, Preparation and Assessment time that all teachers are now entitled to during the working day. We are lucky that this time will be covered by Mrs Cox who is very familiar to all the children. PPA afternoons will occur on alternate Monday and Wednesday afternoons. All these sessions have been planned by us and we are confident that they will be delivered competently and without disruption.

Homework

Your child will continue to bring home a **reading** book every day to share with you. Most of these can be found on the bookcase outside the classroom door. If your child needs a new book, please help him/her to choose one from the appropriate colour in the morning, before class starts. We will try to ensure that your child is heard read weekly by a teacher, teaching assistant or volunteer. However at certain times of the year, events may conspire to make this impossible.

Frequent reading sessions at home with a parent is key to a child's success in reading, but also in many other areas of the curriculum. It is important that you comment in the reading diaries giving at least the date and the page number reached, but preferably also a comment. Shared reading and discussion of the story are very helpful. Please encourage your child to read with expression, and to express opinions about the characters in the story, the plot, and what might happen next.

A list of **spellings** for each week will be placed in your child's spelling book after an initial spelling assessment has been undertaken. Please help your child to learn their spellings and other words with the same spelling pattern. Your child will be tested in class on Friday with the words listed. Spelling books will be returned to your child on Friday afternoon with a new set of words to learn. Please ensure that your child's spelling book is always brought into school in their book bag. Year Three children may at times get additional spelling homework based on the sounds or rules they have been learning in class.

Please help your child with their mental manipulation of **numbers** to increase their confidence and speed. This could include counting forwards and backwards from a given number, or simple addition and subtraction problems. These are great for long car journeys or bath times!

By the end of Year Two all children are expected to know their **multiplication facts** for 2, 5 and 10 and the related division facts, including multiples of 2, 5 and 10. They will need to know the tables off by heart and to be able to recall multiplication facts out of context and possibly using a range of vocabulary e.g. What is six lots of five, or six times five. What happens if you divide thirty by five? What are the multiples of five to fifty?

If you have access to the internet, you could try using [GRIDCLUB](http://www.gridclub.com), which is found at www.gridclub.com. School user name is bat0219, and the password is ba26tq. There are lots of fun activities and games for you to try.

If you would like to do additional numeracy work at home with your child, we recommend the Year Two and Three maths workout books, published by cgpbooks, which can be purchased on line (www.cgpbooks.co.uk).

Punctuality

We would ask that all children arrive in school punctually in the mornings and say goodbye to parents and adults in the hall or cloakroom. We are keen to develop the pupils' independence at this time of day and there will be a starting activity in the classroom at 8.50 in order to focus the children on their learning.

Urgent messages can be passed to the teachers but we would be grateful if most discussions could wait until the afternoon when the teachers will be able to talk at leisure.

Library

Your child will have the opportunity to choose a new library book to bring home. Library day is Monday.

Maths Games

There will be an opportunity for your child to change their maths game once a week (Monday). Please can you encourage your child to change their maths game regularly.

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child brings a named bottle to school every day, filled only with water (no squash or juice). We do not have facilities for them to have any other drinks during the day, except with school dinners, and a dehydrated child cannot perform to their full potential. Please ensure water bottles are also taken home every night and washed.

Uniform

Please ensure your entire child's uniform and PE kit is named, one school sweatshirt looks very like another!

Please could you also provide a named painting apron, which can be kept on their pegs or in the box in the cloakroom.

PE kit

Blue Bathampton t – shirt

Black or blue shorts

Socks for P.E.

Trainers

Tracksuit bottoms for outside games

Wellington boots

We strongly recommend that each child has a pair of wellington boots in school, so they can play in the woods and on the field throughout the year. Please can you write your child's name in their boots and send them to school in a plastic bag.

Money

We request that all money brought in to school be placed in an envelope with your child's name, the reason for payment, and the amount enclosed on the front.

We look forward to working with you and your child this year. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to see one of us.

Kind Regards

Ms Ovigne and Mrs Wood