

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 3! I hope you had a lovely summer and that everyone is looking forward to a new year at Skyswood. I will be giving the children lots of information this week and next, about how Year 3 will work. There will be quite a few changes from Year 2 and so I will try not to bombard them with too much at once! I will try to give you all the information you need in this letter, but if you have any questions at all, please feel free to pop in or send me an email.

In English this term, we will be covering two writing units - one on 'Narrative Texts' and one on 'Poetry'. Group Read Write Inc. sessions do not continue in Year 3 and instead spellings are taught in a lesson on a Monday in class. Each spelling lesson will be focused around a particular spelling rule each week. Spellings related to this rule will be given out on a Monday and written in the children's Homework Diaries. They will then be taken home during the week to practise before they test each other on a Friday. We will also be doing Times Tables against the clock every Friday and your children will choose a table to learn each week. These will be in the format of a 'Crazy Clock'. I will discuss with the children how the 'Crazy Clock' Times Tables will work and hopefully they'll be able to explain to you! When the children practise times tables at home, they will be able to access Times Tables Rockstars online. Whole class Guided Reading sessions this term are taking place on a Tuesday and Wednesday between 9am and 9.40am. On a Friday we are going to split and do Guided Reading in groups. Each Friday, all the children will be set reading to do from their group book, which needs to be completed at home for the following Friday. I will aim for this reading to take between 25-35 minutes to complete. It can be done with a parent/sibling or the children can do it on their own. Some children will also be given 1:1 reading books from the school scheme to be read as often as possible both at home and in school, just as they did last year.

During Maths, we will start the term with a unit on Place Value before a real focus on the four main operations (Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division). Every Monday, we will do an arithmetic lesson and every Friday, we will work on a maths puzzle or investigation.

Homework will be set every Friday and due in on the following Wednesday. Homework will be set on a variety of different topics and will be related to class learning. The children should aim to spend between 30 and 45 minutes on their homework. Each week, the homework will be set on Google Classroom. In our first Computing lesson next Monday, I will go through how to use the whole Google Suite of programs including Google Classroom.

The children will study two topics this term in Science - First we will study 'Rocks and Fossils' and then will follow this up with 'Forces and Magnets'. In History, we are traveling back to the first very humans in Great Britain, and then working through The Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages. French and Music will be taught by Mrs Cheshire and Mr Turner. In Computing, the children will spend a few weeks familiarising themselves with the Google Suite of software before moving on to 'The Internet' and 'Stop Frame Animation'. In Art, the children will create 'Stone Age Cave Paintings, alongside a unit on 'Complimentary Colours'. PE this term will take place on a Thursday and a Friday. For as long as the weather holds, we will be playing netball.

To Summarise:

- Spellings given out Monday and tested on Friday (Starting next week)
- Times Tables will be tested each Friday (Starting Friday 11th September)
- Home Reading given out on a Friday - to be completed by following Friday (Starting Friday 11th September)
- Homework given out on a Friday and due on Wednesday (Starting this week)
- PE - Thursdays and Fridays

If you have any questions or concerns about anything, please do not hesitate to contact me on oswind@skyswood.aetrust.uk .

Yours sincerely,

Mr David Oswin (Class Teacher), Mrs Claire Donachie (Trainee Teacher) and Mrs Marina Cocarca (Class Teaching Assistant)