

Newsletter Autumn Term 2020 -Year 3

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year! We hope that you have enjoyed your summer holidays. We are confident that we will be able to work together in order to provide the children with a happy and productive year. We are taking extra precautions in school as a result of the COVID 19 situation. This includes extra handwashing throughout the day. Please speak to your child about how to wash hands carefully and thoroughly. Please send in a labelled water bottle for your child on a daily basis if you have not done so already.

Miscellaneous

As the children are now in Key Stage Two, they are allowed to bring in their own equipment in their own school bag. They may bring a pencil case (nothing too large as this will cause problems with space on the tables and in their trays) which may contain a pencil, 30cm ruler (not the bendy or fold in half types please), a sensible white rubber (this is to avoid smudging in their workbooks), a small selection of colouring pencils, (no felt pens or gel pens are needed) and a pencil sharpener. Please ensure all equipment is clearly labelled, thank you.

Your child will have two PE sessions per week for the Autumn Term. The lessons will alternate between inside and outside, weather dependent. Your child's PE days will be on a Tuesday and Thursday, although we sometimes have to adjust our timetables depending on the weather. Please ensure that your child's PE kit is in school all week. We will send the kit home half termly for a wash. If you would like to wash it more frequently, please ask your child to take it home over the weekend. Please ensure that your child's kit is back in school on Monday morning.

Your child's PE kit must contain navy or black shorts, a white T-shirt (Fairfield's logo preferred), a navy or black tracksuit/jumper and trainers. Your child will also need plimsolls to wear as indoor shoes. Please ensure that your child's school uniform and PE kit are clearly named. If your child loses an article of unnamed clothing, it will be sent to lost property which is located in the Art Block.

It is essential that you are reading daily with your child. They need to read/look at a wide range of books and not focus exclusively on scheme books from school. Please record any additional books or texts you read with your child in the reading record book. Reading a wide range of books, listening to a variety of genres, talking about and discussing what they have read or heard will help with the understanding and appreciation of stories and other texts. Your child will need to bring their reading book to school every day. It is your child's responsibility to hand it in to ensure it is changed so they can move through the reading scheme appropriately.

Work

This term we will be running a catch up curriculum; this is to ensure we cover any misconceptions or gaps in the children's knowledge. To do this, we will be teaching extended English and Maths lessons daily in Year 3. The children will also be having extra spelling, grammar and punctuation lessons as well as arithmetic and handwriting. We will be sending home spellings to learn each week. Your child may receive 5, 8 or 12 spellings. These will be given out on a Monday and then tested on the following Monday and will also be displayed on the weekly parent info found on our school website. We will also be continuing to use Times Table Rock Stars. We will be setting regular 'battles' between the classes to help the children learn the relevant times tables. The children will be notified when these 'battles' are. It is essential that your children use this website frequently as homework to consolidate their knowledge. The children already have their logins from Year 2. If you have misplaced this, please come and see us. The children will complete a test twice a week with a focus on one or more of the times tables. We will notify you of the relevant times table test on the weekly parent info on the school's website.

For the first half of the term our topic is The Stone Age, the children will be learning about life from The Stone Age through the Iron Age and up to the Bronze Age. For the second half term, the children's topic will be Rocks, Fossils and Dinosaurs.

Trips and Workshops

For the autumn term, we have planned a trip to the Celtic Harmony Camp in Brickendon on Wednesday 14th October 2020 to go with our Stone Age to Iron Age topic. We also have a visit from the Lowewood Museum to talk about pre-history and timelines with the children. For some trips and workshops there will be a small cost involved that we would be grateful if you could contribute to. This enables us to run these enriching activities for the children. We will advise you of the cost and dates closer to the time.

We look forward to working with you and your child in the year ahead.

Yours sincerely

Mr W. Weatherhead and Miss L. Cooper