

Tuesday 23rd September

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 3 is off to a flying start! The children are settling in and getting used to routines. Here is some information about homework and reading in Year 3.

Homework: We do not set specific written tasks in Year 3. Our expectation for homework is daily reading for at least 10-15 minutes (aim for 5 times per week or more). This should be reading aloud to an adult. Those children who are reading at speed and with more fluency may also be reading to themselves but it's great if you can still hear them read a page or two. Children have been given yellow reading diaries. Please record daily reading in the diary. It should be brought in to school each Monday for us to have a look at. In addition to reading, children need to practice their times tables at home. They can do this using Times Table Rock Stars. We are currently focusing on revising x2, x5, x10 and will soon be moving on to x3 x4. Children have passwords for TTRS and these will be glued into reading records so you have them at home. Children will have to complete a government times table check in May of Year 4 so it would be very helpful if pupils began to secure facts now.

Reading Books & Library: Most children have now been allocated a reading book from the school library. Our library is divided into the following fiction sections:

Fluency readers – these are shorter chapter books with lots of pictures and less words on a page to support children who have a slightly slower reading speed or are just finishing phonics.

Red readers – short chapter books with more text on a page (this section suits most Year 3 pupils!)

Yellow readers – longer chapter books (many of the books in this section are more suited to the upper juniors).

We also have a wide range of non-fiction and graphic novels that children can sign out. Children are allowed up to two books at a time. Books are signed out for two weeks. There are no late fees for returns but we do ask parents to pay for books if they are lost or damaged.

Children who are still practising phonics will be given a decodable book that matches their understanding. They are also welcome to choose books from the library. Phonic books are changed weekly. It is ideal if children read these books through at least 3 times to increase fluency.

We visit the library as a class every other week and children can be supported to change books then or in between visits as needed. Children are also welcome to visit the library at lunchtime. The library has a small shop where children can purchase school stationery items. This is only meant to be to top up what they need for the classroom (pencils, hand writing pens etc). Please do not send children to school with more than £2.50. We can only make small amounts of change and larger sums of money make it very tempting for children to make purchases for their friends or buy things they don't really need!

Stationery Price List

Glue stick (Pritt 43g) £1.60

Handwriting Pen (Berol) 35p

Ink Eraser 85p

Pencil 15p

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Pencil Sharpener – metal 30p
Pencil Sharpener – plastic 25p
Pilot FriXion pen - £2.20
Protractor 15p
Small Ruler (15cm) 15p
Red Ballpoint Pen 10p
White Rubber 30p

Note: Children do not need hand writing pens at present but will in the coming months.

Reading Volunteers: We would absolutely love to have more volunteers to hear readers. Ideal times are 8:30am (come in at drop off and listen to readers until 9:00) or afternoons (anytime between 12:45 and 3:15). You do need a DBRS check to come in so please let us know if you are interested and see the school office about organising a check.

Please do get in touch with your child's class teacher if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to meeting you all at parents' evening next month.

Yours sincerely

Miss K Greenwood & Mrs A Mance
Year 3 Co-ordinators

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Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
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