

Building Each Other Up in Love and Learning

Monday 5th September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you and your families have had a restful and joyous summer and that your children are ready and keen to start their new academic year. As a staff team, we are already looking forward to the excitement and new opportunities which getting to teach a new class of children brings!

Religious Education and Worship

This year we are excited to continue with our school values. These are: friendship, thankfulness, kindness, forgiveness, respect (for the environment), service and peace. The spiritual value for Year 3 is forgiveness. During RE lessons and Class Worship time, children will have the opportunity to learn and reflect upon their value using a range of resources, such as Biblical stories and verses, world news and events, and personal experiences.

The children will also be encouraged to take ownership of their year group value by thinking about how it could be implemented into the school and wider community, for example raising money for charities or helping the school to be more eco-friendly.

Reading

It is impossible to over emphasise the positive impact that reading has on your child's education and development. This key life skill, when learned and enjoyed at an early age, will improve your children's independent writing, expand their vocabulary, broaden their viewpoint on life, improve their concentration and expand their imagination.

Over the course of Year 3, children often begin to read independently but we ask that you devote time to reading together with your child every day in addition to their independent reading. These reading sessions may take different forms: whether you share a book, take it in turns to read, listen to your child read or you are there to pose questions about what has been read, this is one of the best ways you can help your child flourish as a learner!

Accelerated Reader

Everytime your child has finished reading a book independently, they should complete the Accelerated Reader quiz for it. This helps us make sure they are reading books at an appropriate level for them and also helps develop children's comprehension skills.

The website to log on to is: <https://ukhosted59.renlearn.co.uk/6712885>

The child's user name comes from the initial of their first name and then the first 4 letters of their surname.

Eg: Grace Mizon would be gmizo

Spelling

We really value your support in helping your child with their spelling. In Year 3, the application of phonics for spelling will continue to be a focus but we will also move on to more complex spelling rules, investigations and reasoning. Children will have two spelling lessons a week and frequent opportunities for retrieval of prior spelling across the week. In addition to their weekly spelling rule, children need to learn that some words do not adhere to certain rules

and must be learnt by rote, including many of the words set out in the national curriculum for children to learn over Year 3 and 4. These words, as well as the words for prior years, can be found on Google Classroom.

Maths

This year we are extremely lucky to have adults working in the team across Year 3 who will be available to support teaching in maths. Consequently, we will be having morning and in school interventions to ensure rapid and sustained progress for all children. We will use the data given to us by the year two teachers in conjunction with our own, new assessments of the children to determine what interventions they may require. If you have any queries or worries about this, please do contact your child's class teacher.

Times Tables Rock Stars

The website to log on to is: <https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student>

Times tables are an essential part of maths in Year 3, and children will need to be fluent in the majority of their tables by the end of the year.

Children are expected to know the majority of their times tables by the end of Year 3. Being fluent with multiplication and division facts is imperative to becoming a secure mathematician.

Please encourage your child to complete at least 15 minutes of TTRS each day.

Google Classroom

The new Year 3 Google Classroom will be a hub for everything the children need to support them with their learning this academic year. Please encourage your child to check this regularly to ensure they utilise all of the resources there. Should you require any of the documents on the classroom to be printed out, please contact your child's teacher who will be able to arrange this for you.

Homework

This year, homework will be a mix of online work for maths (Mathletics and TTRS) and paper worksheets for grammar and spelling. All homework will be set on a Monday and will need to be completed by the following Monday so that teachers can check the work that your child has completed and assign new homework which is targeted to what they need. You will be able to find the weekly homework timetable on your child's Google Classroom so that it is clear for everyone what they must complete that week.

Please note, there are helpful knowledge organisers on Google Classroom which will help children complete their homework.

Timetable

You will have access to your child's weekly timetable for the Autumn Term on their Google Classroom, however please do be aware this is changeable week on week dependent on trips, visitors etc.

PE and Games

Our PE and Games are as below. Please may we ask that children attend school on these days in their St. Stephen's PE kit with spare trainers in a separate bag in case of wet and muddy weather. A waterproof jacket and a water bottle should also be available at all times in school but specifically on these days.

- Thunberg Class (Mrs Grovesnor) - Tuesday and Thursday
- Mandela Class (Miss MacKenzie) - Thursday and Friday

Communication and Dates

As always, if you have any concerns, worries or just want a quick informal chat, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us via the year3@st-stephens.richmond.sch.uk.

Best wishes,

Emma Grosvenor and Sian MacKenzie