

Dear Hummingbird Class children, parents, and carers,

Welcome back to Term 2! We loved getting to know you all last term and can't wait to see you progress even more in Term 2. We hope you all had a restful and well-deserved break. Holly and Polly are very excited to welcome you back.

Our whole school value this term is 'Compassion' and our topic is 'Environment.' (Please see our topic web on the school website for more information).

## **Land and Trips**

**Land Event – 7.12. 23 9am-9.45am**

**Visit:** TBC

### **Drop off and pick up**

- Please drop your children off at the **gates** between 8.45am and 8.55am, **registration starts promptly at 8:55am**. Please collect children at 3:25pm on the Astroturf to the left of the playground.

### **Class Expectations**

- We are continuing to practice our Redfield Way this year, and will always aim to be kind, safe and ready. We are so excited to share and celebrate our Year 3 achievements, both in school and at home.
- We have 'show and tell' on a Friday afternoon. If you have an achievement or piece of learning from out of school that you are excited to share, we would love to see it – you can bring it in or send a picture/video on Seesaw to share in class.
- Please **don't bring in toys** or stationery from home – we have lots in school and it can be upsetting if special possessions get lost or broken. If you are bringing something in for the day to share, please let me know so that we can keep it somewhere safe.

### **PE**

- Our PE days are Tuesday and Thursday. On Tuesday we will be doing 'Throwing and catching' and Thursday 'Gymnastics'. Please ensure children come to school on those days wearing clothing and suitable footwear (trainers, t-shirt, leggings, joggers or shorts).
- Please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school every day.

### **Spelling**

- Spelling tests will take place on a Friday morning and can be accessed via our section on the school website and Seesaw.
- Each week's list of words will be linked to a particular spelling pattern, phonic sounds and statutory year 3/4 spellings.
- We will be starting spelling lessons this term as well as continuing to build on our phonics learning.

### **Reading**

- Reading at home can have a huge effect on children's progress, as well as encouraging them to read for pleasure.
- All children will bring reading books home from school and they may have books of their own choice from home or the public library that they choose to read.

- Children should read independently or to an adult at least 5 times a week for 10 minutes.
- Please focus on comprehension questions and their overall understanding of a text.
- If your child mainly reads on their own, it is helpful to talk to them about what they're reading and ask them to summarise what they have read so far.
- Please record in your child's reading record when they have read. This can simply be a signature.
- The children receive a sticker every time they read 5 times a week. If they have 5 stickers by the end of term, they will receive a prize!

### Times Tables

- In Year 3, we focus on our 3, 4 and 8 times tables. We will also revisit times tables learnt in Year 2 (2, 5 and 10)
- We practice times tables frequently in school but any extra practice at home is always useful – they provide the building blocks for lots of our maths, so it really builds children's confidence to be fluent in their times tables.
- A little practice each day makes a huge amount of difference and there are lots of times table apps that can be used for this. Hit the Button website, White Rose 1 minute maths and Times table Rockstars.

### Communication

- Seesaw is the easiest way to contact us and we can call you back if you send a message. We aim to reply to Seesaw messages within 2 working days.
- **Please don't use Seesaw for emergency messages as we cannot check them while teaching or in meetings. Continue to call the office for emergency messages.**
- A member of the Year 3 team will be available on the playground at 3.25pm every day. We are happy to catch up for an informal chat then and can arrange a meeting for longer conversations – we will aim to arrange meetings within a week.
- We will send out all school messages through Seesaw, so please let us know as soon as possible if you are having trouble accessing your account. We will also update Seesaw with news about our learning in class and photos of the children's work.
- The school website will be updated termly to share topic maps, spelling lists and any additional resources that can support learning at home.

### Can you help?

- We would like to build a directory of skills or expertise that our families would be willing to volunteer in school.
- Please could you let us know if you would like to support in school and have a particular skill (for example an art technique or drama experience) or area of expertise that you would be willing to talk about (such as a career, religion, or knowledge of a different country or culture).
- We would love to involve as many families as possible in our learning, and year groups across the school may ask to draw on your expertise.
- If you are interested in and able to support on trips or visits this year, we would also love to hear from you.
- Thank you in advance if you are able to contribute!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards,  
Polly and Holly