



Miss Li



Miss Hughes

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year!

The Year 3 team would like to say a warm **welcome back!** We hope you had chance to rest over the break and are looking forward to a new and exciting term ahead.

Here is some useful information about Year 3 and the following term

Topic

We are excited to be focusing on '**Underneath our feet**' this half term. This topic has a key focus on Science, Geography and Art. In Science, we will be comparing groups of rocks based on their properties and we will be looking at fossils and how they are formed. In Geography, we will be focussing on illustrating and understanding maps and their features. We will also be creating a pebble abstract piece of art inspired by Ugo Rondinone.

Purple homework book

Thank you for all the great homework you have supported your child to complete already. Do let us know if you need a new homework book. As usual we will be sending home a homework grid at the start of every half term. This will also be available via teams on Friday 7th January if you prefer a digital copy. Books will be collected on a Friday when we will have our 'homework gallery' where children can share their hard work with their classmates and the

adults. Please do encourage your child to do *their best work* that is neatly presented and of a good quality.

Year 3 & 4 spelling list

In the children's homework book there is also a Year 3 & 4 spelling list. These are a list of words children are expected to be able to spell correctly by the end of Year 4, so any practise at home will help! ☺

PE days: Wednesdays and Thursdays

On PE days, please continue to **send your child to school wearing their PE kit**. The PE kit includes a white, plain t-shirt, black shorts or joggers, a black zip up top and trainers or pumps. Thursday's PE will be outdoors so they will also need a jacket for cooler days. Children are expected to be in their PE kit to take part in the lessons.

Healthy Snacks – Fruit and water

Please ensure your child comes to school with a clearly named water bottle containing water only. As part of our healthy eating initiative, do ensure that your child has a **piece of fruit or some vegetables** as a snack for morning break (avoiding crisps/biscuits/sweets/chocolate). Many thanks for your support with this.

Reading

Children will have opportunities to read in school (through whole class reading sessions, reading with the teacher and independent reading), but we would very much appreciate your support with encouraging them to read daily at home, ideally to an adult. This will inspire a love of reading and has proven and significant benefits to children's academic performance. In KS2, there is a move from the mechanics of reading to comprehension. Therefore, when reading with them, ask questions to check their understanding, particularly focusing on:

- Retrieval questions (i.e. where you have to find the answer/information from the text)
- Inference questions (i.e. where it doesn't explicitly say the answer in the text, you use the clues and information to create an answer, for example why something is said or done).

We will be sending out a new reading record for you and your child to complete at home alongside a reading prompt question mat. Look out for a letter with more details on how to complete this and our expectations for reading at home.

Maths

Our focus units for this half term are multiplication and division, measurement (money, length and perimeter) and statistics. Providing your child with real life contexts at home is always a helpful way to embed their understanding on money, length and perimeter. You can also support their learning through an instant recall of their times tables and divisions up to 12 x 12.

English

During the first half term our focus will be to write a fairy-tale with a twist, a chronological report and a poem. Our first book for this half term is 'The True Story of the Three Little Pigs'. We will be using this text as inspiration to write our own fairy-tale with a twist. We will then be focussing on the text 'My Strong Mind' to help us write a set of instructions to help us stay healthy.

Finally, if you can, please discuss with your child the work they have done as the term progresses and let them teach you!

We're all really looking forward to the term ahead.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 3 Team