

UNITE - INSPIRE - EXCEL

11th September 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 3! As you know all too well, we are currently experiencing an unusual and different time but despite this, we hope you still had a fantastic summer break and have had a chance to recharge your batteries for the exciting year ahead. This week, we have thoroughly enjoyed spending time getting to know all of the children, setting expectations, introducing our topic, 'Explore London' and strengthening our team building skills as well as, of course, introducing them to the wonderful world of Westfields Junior School. Also, we have enjoyed learning a range of social distanced games for the playground. Thank you so much for supporting us with our new routines as we settle into our new normal.

Communication

We highly value communication between our school and home. Unfortunately, due to current restrictions face to face contact is challenging so we ask that you call or email the school with any queries or concerns. We are always here with a listening ear and will get back to you as soon as possible! Furthermore, we are extremely proud of the content of our school website, www.westfields-jun.hants.sch.uk, which you can always access for the most recent school information, tweets, newsletters and dates of forthcoming events.

Home Learning

Home learning is an essential part of children's learning. In Year 3 we will set one piece of home learning each week, alternating between a grammar and maths focus. Most Maths home learning will be set via MyMaths. We will be attaching a letter to your child's reading record that will include the individual login details for your child to access MyMaths at home. Home learning tasks will be set on Thursdays and will be uploaded to the relevant sections of Class Dojo (please see the letter from Mrs Wilson for full details); activities will be based upon work already covered in class so will link to and build upon their current learning. These tasks should take approximately 20 minutes to complete but if your child is struggling with their home learning, they can speak to their class teacher in order to get some extra support.

Mental Maths (Fluency)

In school, your child will take part in our 'Mathmagician's Guild' which are weekly challenges on number bonds and times tables. As always, your support with learning number bonds and times tables to aid mental maths fluency is welcomed to help develop your child's confidence, accuracy and speed, as these skills form vital building blocks to all areas of Maths. Also, please remember that your child should regularly use their TTRockstars account to improve their speed in remembering their times table knowledge.

Reading

As you know, reading is a vital life skill and every child will continue to have a reading record to track their reading progress. We ask that the children read to an adult at home every day (or as much as possible!) and have their reading records in school every day. This year, we have started our exciting 'Reading Masters Challenge'. Each week, we will count how much reading has been recorded in your child's reading record and over the term they will move up the levels. The aim is to achieve 'master' with 75 reads by the end of each term!

Spelling

All children will be given weekly spellings each Tuesday, which are from the National Curriculum expectations for our year group. At the beginning of this year, the spellings will focus on consolidating Year 2 knowledge before moving on to this year's content. The children will be taught the spelling rule in class so that they understand how it works and can apply it to a variety of words. On the following Monday, children will be tested to check their understanding.

We appreciate that there is so much information to absorb at the moment, particularly if you do not have older children who have previously attended or currently attend Westfields. As such, please do not worry, if you are unsure of anything – just drop us an email or give us a call and we will help in any way we can.

We are all looking forward to the exciting and engaging year ahead.

Kind regards,

C. Courtney

Mrs Courtney
Year 3 Team Leader
& Class Teacher

M. Campbell

Miss Campbell
Class Teacher

M. Pollard

Miss Pollard
Class Teacher

