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UNITE - INSPIRE - EXCEL

10th September 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 3! It has been, and remains, a rather unusual time but we continue to work extremely hard to ensure the children are safe and enjoy our rich broad curriculum that is highlighted in our attached topic web. We hope you all 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 the children to the wonderful world of Westfields Junior School. In particular, we have enjoyed learning about the different areas to play on our playground such as trim trail, climbing wall and, of course, Parker's Place. Thank you so much for your support with our new routines as we settle into the new school year.

Communication

We highly value communication between our school and home. As such please call, email or message the school with any queries or concerns. For any year group questions, you can message the class teacher on ClassDojo but please contact the school office about any details regarding attendance. 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, newsletters, tweets and details of forthcoming events.

Home Learning

Home learning is a key element 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 ClassDojo (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 multiplication tables. As always, your support with learning number bonds and key facts 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 many areas of Maths. Also, please remember that your child should regularly use their TTRockstars account to improve their speed and accuracy of multiplication and related division facts.

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 status' with 75 reads by the end of each term!

Spelling

New for this year, across the school we will be using Spelling Shed, which is a web-based platform, to support the learning of spelling rules and patterns. Spellings will be set each **Tuesday** and will be tested on the following **Monday**. Within class, the children will be taught the spelling rules and patterns prior to being set spelling words to practise. The children's spellings will be set via Spelling Shed and they will be able to practise their words online by completing a variety of exciting games. Similarly to TTRockstars, the children will also have the opportunity to earn points, compete in leagues and edit their individual avatar! The children will be shown in school how to use Spelling Shed and their usernames and passwords will be sent home shortly in order for them to begin practising! Please be aware, the use of Spelling Shed through Chrome, Safari or any web browser is free. Alternatively, there is a Spelling Shed app available however this will incur a one-off download charge. If you have any problems with online access, please contact us so that we can support you. We are looking forward to this new and exciting way of supporting our children's spelling development!



Key Year 3 Dates for the Autumn Term

20.09.21 – 2.45pm - Year 3 Meet the Teacher

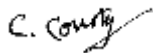
12.11.21 – 3HC Radio Show (available on the school website).

08.12.21 – 2.00pm and 6.00pm – Year 3 Christmas Production

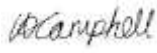
We appreciate that there is so much information to absorb at the moment, particularly if you do not have older children who have previously attended or currently attend Westfields. As such, please do not worry, if you are unsure of anything – just drop us an email or give us a call and we will help in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

We are all looking forward to an exciting and engaging year ahead and hope you are able to join us for our brief 'Meet the Teacher' session on Monday 20th September at 2.45pm.


Kind regards,



Mrs Courtney
Year 3 Team Leader
& Class Teacher



Miss Campbell
Class Teacher



Miss Pollard
Class Teacher