Parents meeting September 2019

General

There is a big change for your child in the move to Year 3, as they are now working on the KS2 curriculum. The expectations in the children’s learning outcomes are quite challenging. We will be looking to improve their resilience and perseverance, with more independence and less ‘spoon-feeding’ than previously. This includes taking responsibility for such items as PE kits, letters and reading books.

The day starts at 8.45 and children need to be at school on time as we will be starting work at this time and ends at 3.15. Lunch is later than previously so the children all need a good breakfast to ensure energy levels do not flag at the end of the morning. There will still be a fruit snack at break time.

Children will be changing their own books and the onus is on them to say at the appropriate time that their book needs changing. They will all be given training in the library system. We will be reducing the amount of 1:1 reading and focusing more on guided reading and comprehension. At the present time we are reworking the reading record so the children will be using a bookmark to record their reading progress.

Expectations

* PRESENTATION – all work needs to be completed to the best of the child’s ability. Good presentation is very important.
* EDIT AND EVALUATE – children will need to learn how to check through their work and ensure that they have followed the learning question and correct any mistakes that they find.
* HANDWRITING – writing needs to be cursive and between the lines of 4mm lines.
* TIMING AND FINISHING – all work needs to be completed within the allocated time. This does not mean rushing – poor standard work due to rushing will need to be redone. If not finished, it will be finished at break time.
* WORK QUIETLY – stay in seat and work quietly. If help is needed follow 2B4 me procedure. Put hand up if still need help.
* PENCIL CASE – a pencil case is a privilege that can be lost if it becomes a distraction or basis for argument.
* MARKING – mistakes can be highlighted (writing) or a cross (calculations). You will need to make amendments and also read comments in both pink and green. You need to provide a written response.
* CARPET TIME – listen and switch brain on. No toilet breaks and nothing in hands.
* SELF ASSESSMENT – respond honestly.

Literacy

Any piece of writing will need to be edited and evaluated by the children themselves before passing it to me to be marked. Self-assessment will be a big part of KS2. The child will review their work based on a checklist of requirements for the writing genre. Maths

We continue to use Abacus Scheme of work to ensure coverage and it continues to build upon the learning in KS1. We recently added an additional initiative with Singapore maths, where children are introduced to a problem and use concrete resources to solve it.

Science

Science is a core subject – on a level with maths and literacy. We aim to develop children who can work scientifically i.e. thinking about and planning fair tests and recording the results of investigations. Our first topic is Movement and Feeding.

Homework

Each week there will be a piece of relevant maths homework together with SPAG practice. These are sent out Thursday and are due back Tuesday the following week. In addition there are termly competencies which are maths and spellings. The maths are based on fundamental operations and concepts (such as times tables) which children need to be secure with to enable them to move on with their learning. Maths concepts will be tested at various times over the term and the spellings at the end of each week – this could be Thursday or Friday. We also test a few spellings from previous weeks to ensure they are not forgotten. Competencies will be sent out on Eschools and a hard copy also provided. Homework will start on the week commencing 16/9, although it would be helpful if children could keep a diary about everything that they eat over a week for Science on Thursday 19/9.

Behaviour in KS2

There are higher expectations of behaviour in KS2 and there are less chances given for repeated infringements before sanctions are applied. The rules should be clearly understood now and unacceptable behaviour will always be dealt with. Children should be able to sort out minor disagreements themselves without needing to refer to adults, although as before, we will deal with problems if required.

Timetable

Monday – Wednesday morning, SPaG, literacy and then maths. Monday and Tuesday afternoon are topic based. Wednesday afternoon covers ICT, RE and PSHE. Thursday starts with competencies and PE. After break Mrs Walker will be teaching creative writing and music. After lunch Mrs Walker will be teaching Science. Fridays will again cover SPaG, followed by PE or French on alternate weeks. French is again taught by Mrs Walker. We have time for a short literacy or maths lesson which will be more of a catch-up and revisiting to ensure understanding. In the afternoon we have choir and golden time. Three times a week we have guided reading after lunch.

Topic

Our topic for this term is Celebrations ‘Where I fit into my World’ and we are working on cross curricular planning to cover all areas in our topic work. The documents will be available for viewing on the website in due course.

Eschools

I put a short note on eschools each weekend just to update you on the previous week and give you an idea of the coverage planned for the upcoming week. Please check your account regularly as it is the main way that I can communicate with the