



St. Mary's Church of England Primary School, Putney

Vision: *Delivering excellence, allowing all to flourish*

Mission: *Creating a culture of wonder, guided by Christian faith*

Values: *Compassion • Endurance • Thankfulness*

Year 3: Half-Termly Letter to Parents

Autumn Term 1, September 2023

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

Hello, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a warm welcome to Year 3 - the class that is your child's first step into Key Stage Two! This is a very exciting time for your child as they have now entered into the junior phase of their time at primary school. The expectation is for children in Year 3 to become more independent and to take on more responsibility for themselves, their belongings and their learning. Stepping up to the challenges of the Key Stage 2 national curriculum is important - the children will cover more demanding content in both mathematics and English; the pace of learning increases; and there will be a little more effort required towards home learning, which must be completed as assignments on Microsoft Teams.



The staff in Year 3 will of course be there to support your child with this big transition, with the aim of continuing to fill the children with an excitement for learning, but also instilling the right amount of work ethic and discipline required for study. I wish your child a great year ahead.

The Year 3 Team

Our Year 3 teaching and learning team is made up of Mr Lett and Mrs Ford; On Mondays, the class will also be taught by specialist staff: Mrs Adams for art and design, Ms Fenner for music and Mr Newman for PE. On Tuesdays, Mr Newman will take the class for a second PE session. On Wednesdays, the Wandsworth Music Service, led by Mrs Salter, will teach the children how to play the recorder and Madame Claudine will teach French.

The Curriculum

Your child will follow the national curriculum's Key Stage Two programme of study. The school has produced clear statements of intent which relate to this programme of study for each subject and these lay out what curriculum content will be taught in each year group across the year.

To view the Year 3 curriculum intent please see the Year 3 Curriculum Map, which can be viewed on our school website here: <http://www.stmarysschoolputney.co.uk/our-curriculum/#curric>
We will begin by following the content outlined in the autumn term.

PE Arrangements

This year your child's PE lessons will take place every **Monday** and **Tuesday**. Your child can attend school on these days wearing the approved St. Mary's PE kit. If your child takes part in a school sports club before or after school on a **non-PE** day, they are required to change i.e. if the sports club is before school then please bring school uniform to change into and if after school please bring PE kit to get changed into.

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S PE KIT (AND SUITABLE FOOTWEAR - TRAINERS FOR OUTDOORS) IS READY FOR SCHOOL ON MONDAYS AND TUESDAYS - LABELLED CLEARLY.

School Trips

We plan to conduct several school trips over the course of the academic year to complement your child's learning experience. During the autumn term we plan for Year 3 to visit the local area in Putney, which links to our science topic on Rocks, and then a visit to Butser Ancient Farm down in Hampshire, which links to our history topic on the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages. This trip has been provisionally booked for Thursday 23rd November 2023 - more details will be sent out closer to the time of the trip. If you would like to volunteer as a helper on a school trip you must hold a DBS with the school and have taken part in our volunteer induction. Please contact the school office for details on how to become a school volunteer.

Home Learning Arrangements

The majority of home learning will be set as an assignment via Microsoft Teams. Please ensure your child has access to Microsoft Teams, including knowing their username and password. You might need to support your child at first, especially with navigating the platform and meeting the deadlines for completion and submission. Once a routine has been established, it is expected that children can manage this process themselves.

There will be weekly home learning as follows:

- **Spellings:** Spelling cards will be shared at the start of each half term showing each week's spellings to learn. A copy will be given to each child to go between home and school. A copy will also be posted on Microsoft Teams. These weekly spellings will typically be set on Monday and tested in school on Friday.
- **Times Tables:** Please practice regularly - in Year 3 children will be required to learn times tables facts up to 12x12. A times tables practice booklet will be given to each child to go between home and school and will focus on one set of times tables at a time - starting with the 2x tables. The booklet will also include related division facts. When reading each multiplication fact, children should say the larger multiplicand/multiplier first, for example, the fact $2 \times 5 = 10$ should be read as five twos are ten.
- **Reading:** Daily - to be listened to by an adult for at least 10-15 minutes each morning or evening - if possible. Children should read their book borrowed from the class book corner or school library. Pages completed, along with any comments, should be written in your child's Reading Record Book and signed off by parent/carer. Once a book is finished your child is encouraged to complete a book review and return it to get a book changed.
- **Maths:** Set on Friday afternoon via Microsoft Teams and should be handed in the following Wednesday. Most maths home learning will link with the work done in class and will consist of completing activities and quests on Mathletics, as well as a couple of reasoning and problem solving questions. This should take on average 30-40 minutes.
- **English:** Set on Friday via Microsoft Teams and should be handed in the following Wednesday. Most English home learning will link with developing writing, such as creative and descriptive writing, acrostic poems, grammar, punctuation and vocabulary tasks. This should take on average 50-60 minutes.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding the children at St. Mary's is the responsibility of all staff, parents and professionals who come on site. If you have a safeguarding concern, our Designated Safeguarding Lead in school is Mrs Kerry Dunford. Her contact email is: kdunford.212@lgflmail.org.

If there are safeguarding concerns, which take place outside of school hours please contact the Wandsworth Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). Their contact details are:
Telephone: 020 8871 6622 or e-mail: MASH@wandsworth.gov.uk.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 6th September 2023 at 8.45am - Start of new Academic Year and Autumn Term 1
Wednesday 6th September 2023 at 6pm - Year 3 Meet the Teacher presentation
Friday 22nd September 2023 at 3.20pm - Year 3 Cake/Bake Sale (on school playground)
Tuesday 26th September 2023 at 2pm - Volunteer Induction Meeting
Friday 29th September 2023 at 9.45am - Harvest Festival Service (at St. Mary's Church)
Thursday 5th October 2023 - Year 3 Local Visit Trip in Putney for Rock Survey
Friday 20th October 2023 at 3.20pm - End of Autumn Term 1 and start of half term break
Monday 30th October 2023 at 8.45am - Start of Autumn Term 2

Communication

If you have any queries about the daily routine or what your child is learning, or perhaps to inform us of other matters relating to your child, then do not hesitate to get in touch with any member of the Year 3 team. As always the best way to do this is through the use of your child's PACT. The PACT e-mail is a great tool for communication between home and school, so please do not hesitate in using it. The address is: Class2020@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk

Keep in the loop with social media

The school actively uses two social media platforms to communicate school news and events, so please check them out and follow us:

X <https://twitter.com/PutneySMPS> Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PutneySMPS/>

Starting a new school year is exciting, but also comes with its challenges and anxiety, so do let us know if your child is struggling in the first few weeks back. We will be able to support your child and help them if we are made aware of any issues early on.

Wishing your child a great return to school.

Kindest regards,

Mr Lett