



January 2020 Year 3

Dear Year 3 Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had an enjoyable time over Christmas and New Year. Thank you for the many cards, gifts and good wishes which Mrs Mussell and I received. They were greatly appreciated.

Please spare a few minutes to read through this letter which is intended to remind you about a few things and inform you of this term's areas of study.

Volunteers to listen to children reading

My big plea at the moment is for parents to listen to the children reading. There is nothing to be afraid of and it really does make a difference! I appreciate that many of you have other commitments, but if you could find some time between 9.00 and 9.30am once a week, that would be great.

Equipment



Please consult the Parent Handbook (pages 13-14) if you are uncertain about any of the requirements. It is available on the school website:

<https://www.curzonschool.co.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/PARENT-HANDBOOK-Sept-2018.pdf>

Everything needs to be labelled clearly. Don't forget that whiteboard pens can be purchased from the school. Mrs Mussell and I can always supply a pencil **in an emergency**, but last term we gave out over 50, nearly all of which became permanent loans.

Swimming

This term the children will be having swimming lessons at Woodrow House on Wednesday afternoons. Swimming kit should be brought in every week in a bag and taken home afterwards. **Please ensure that everything, including the bag, is labelled.** The greatest problems the children have are keeping all their belongings together when they get changed and then getting dressed quickly afterwards. **Anything you can do to ensure that neither possessions, nor time, are lost would be an enormous help, for example, encouraging them to put their socks inside their shoes, or making sure they can do up buttons and tie their shoe laces.**

If your child forgets their kit, it can be delivered during the morning, and should left in the Howe Lobby drop-box. Apart from the first week, we will not phone home if a child has forgotten their kit. This is partly to relieve pressure on the office staff and partly to help the children learn to be properly prepared. The school has a couple of spare swimming kits and small towels which will be lent to anyone who forgets their own kit. These will need to be washed and returned in time for the next swimming lessons.

Times tables

Please continue to work on times tables along with the corresponding division facts. **The children need to become confident in the 3, 4 and 8 times tables this year, as well as maintaining their 2, 5 and 10 times tables.** All tables are learnt to a multiple of 12 (e.g. 12×4). If your child struggles with times tables, just take them one table at a time and try to revise them at least three times a week. Also, help them to think of strategies to work out answers which do not come readily, e.g. if they know $10 \times 5 = 50$, then they can work out 9×5 by working out 10×5 and then subtracting 5.



This website might make working on times tables a bit more fun:

<https://www.timestables.co.uk>

Spelling

There will be weekly spelling lists for the children to learn. Sometimes these will link to work on spelling patterns, and other times they will link to vocabulary from the subjects they are studying.

The method I suggest for learning new words has two stages: 1 Look – say - copy; 2 cover- write – check.

Homework

As last term, homework will be set on Wednesday each week. It will consist of a Maths and a literacy task. Occasionally, homework might be set for other subjects, but this will be instead of one of the other subjects. **About twenty minutes of focussed work, in a quiet environment, should be enough for each subject.** Please sign the homework diary every week and also use it to send messages or ask any questions. If your child attends homework club, they should bring their books back home with them so that you can see what they are doing.

Reading

Your child should be reading daily. **Please listen to your child reading at least three times a week, so that you have an idea of how they are coping with pronunciation, unfamiliar words, fluency, and expression.** Either you or your child should make a note of each day's reading in their reading record. This could be simply the page numbers, or could be more elaborate (e.g. a summary, or a new word they have learnt, or what they liked/disliked). **They will receive a house point if they record that they have read three times in a week and you have signed their reading record.** Extra house points are available for extra reading. Please encourage your child to read a range of books and texts.

When listening to your child read:

- let them try to work out new or unfamiliar words first;
- discuss what they are reading;
- ask them to make predictions about what will happen in stories.

Please ask me if you would like any advice on how to support your child with their reading.

School Newsletter

Do please read the school's e-newsletter each week - if you don't already - and please encourage your child to read it, too (it could be recorded in their reading record). As well as photos and news about what has been happening in the school, it includes information and reminders about forthcoming events.

If you have any questions or concerns, come and speak to me when I am on the playground (though not when I am on duty, please) or make an appointment through the office.

We are looking forward to the term ahead.

Mr M Robson (Year 3 Teacher) and Mrs Mussell

YEAR 3 TIMETABLE - SPRING 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hymn Practice	Assembly	Assembly	Assembly	Class Assembly
Literacy (Grammar)	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Maths
Break				
Spelling/phonics	Spelling/phonics	Times tables	Guided reading	Guided reading
Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Literacy
Lunch				
Handwriting	French	Swimming	PE	PSHCE
ICT	Science		RE	Geography
Art				

Curriculum at a Glance - Spring 2020

Science	Animals (nutrition); Plants
ICT	Coding; Email; E-safety
Geography	Rainforests
RE	Hinduism
Art	Art inspired by rainforests
Music	Musical Elements; Ocarinas
PE	Hockey; Netball; Swimming
English	Stories and texts about rainforests
Maths	Multiplication; division; money; length and perimeter; fractions

Friday 13th February: Hindu workshop all afternoon. More details to follow.