

Class 3 - January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much for the kind and thoughtful presents and Christmas messages we received from you at the end of last term. We hope you had a lovely Christmas and were able to spend some family time together.

It's lovely to see how much the children are enjoying seeing their friends again; they are settling back into school routines and are working hard.

The timetable for this term is in the children's new homework diary.

Any donations of glue sticks or whiteboard pens for general class use would be very welcome.

Later in the term, we will be making a 'rainforest in a box' as part of our Design Technology curriculum. If you have any spare shoeboxes over the next few weeks, please save them!

Homework will continue to be set on a Thursday apart from spelling which will be set by Mrs May on a Tuesday. We strongly believe in encouraging children to take ownership of their learning, which includes developing both a love of learning for its own sake and a responsible, hard-working attitude. Well done to those children who found time to read regularly and practise their times tables over the Christmas holidays. We have given 1 house point every time reading was recorded three times

We enjoy hearing about children's achievements outside school. Please let us know of any extra-curricular achievements, for instance passing a music exam, attaining a well-earned badge in Cubs or Brownies or even playing particularly well in sport at the weekend.

This term, Mrs Ellison will be teaching Class 3 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Mrs May continues to cover PPA time on a Tuesday morning. Tuesday afternoon is covered by Computing and PE staff as before.

Note from Mrs May:

This term, Tuesday Maths lessons will focus on Time. We will recap previous learning and read analogue clock times with increasing accuracy, up to the nearest minute. We also look at Roman numerals; 12 hour and 24 hour clocks; comparing time in terms of seconds-minutes-hours-days-weeks- months-years; and duration of events. Time is a topic that involves lots of maths skills and concepts. A link to a useful article is attached that explains why, despite the prevalence of digital clocks, teaching and learning analogue clock time is important. Please practise telling the time at home regularly both this term and all year round to help your child master this important life skill.

<https://www.dedhamcountryday.org/blog/10-reasons-why-its-important-to-teach-second-graders-how-to-read-an-analog-clock/>

Curriculum at a glance – Spring Term 2026

Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiction (Aesop’s Fables) • Poetry (Rainforest) • Non-fiction writing: to link with Geography (Rainforest topic). • Spelling and grammar • Whole class guided reading
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addition and subtraction • Multiplication and Division • Money • Time • Fractions
Science	Animals (incl. humans) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition • Bones and muscles
RE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hinduism – How does a Hindu child worship?
Computing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sequencing sounds • Branching databases
PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming • Football • Handball
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Little Birds The Dragon Song • Peter and the Wolf by Sergei Prokofiev
PSHE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dreams & Goals • Healthy Me
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rainforests, with a focus on South America & the Amazon

Art /DT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter trees • Rainforest art & shoebox dioramas
French	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musical instruments • The seasons

Home learning reminder – homework diaries are due in every **Wednesday**.

Please sign to acknowledge reading and homework completion. Your child will gain house points for home reading – every 3 reads will earn 1 house point.

SPELLINGS: Set Tuesday as handwriting practice. Tested <u>the following Tuesday</u> .	Practise at least 3 times a week , making sure you understand the meaning of the words. Spellings will be set to practise a spelling rule or to support an area of the curriculum. A few spellings from the Year 2 and 3 spelling list may also be included each week (see the list attached).
ENGLISH: Set Thursday, due in Wednesday , sign and add any comments to the homework diary.	20 minutes. Remember to proofread to ensure correct punctuation and enough detail has been included. Sometimes set as a reading comprehension task.
MATHS: Set Thursday, due in Wednesday , sign and add any comments to the homework diary.	20 minutes. One week this will be set in the children’s homework book and the next set through Mathletics. Alongside homework, please practise telling the time regularly, using both analogue clocks (with a face) and digital 12-hour formats.
READING: <u>At least</u> three times a week, with an adult signing and noting comments in the homework diary.	Homework diaries should be in school every day and are checked on Wednesdays. Please keep listening to and reading with your child regularly. Try and make time spent reading together as relaxed and as enjoyable as possible and encourage your child to talk about their reading. Keep reading to your child too - finding time for a bedtime story is a lovely way to end the day and a chance for children to hear language and access books that they may find difficult to read themselves.
TIMES TABLES: Several times a week as required.	The national curriculum target is for all children to know their times tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. It is a life skill and helps enormously with accessing other areas of maths. Please keep on practising! Times tables tests will be held in class weekly. So far in Year 3 we have learnt 2x, 5x, 10x, 3x, 4x and 8x and will continue to repeat each one in turn to consolidate understanding.

We look forward to seeing parents and carers at Parents’ Evening on the 11th and 12th March.

Future Events:

Year 3 Hinduism workshop date tbc

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or concerns. Write a note in the homework diary (checked on **Wednesdays**) or send an email via the school office to make an appointment or arrange a phone call.

We look forward to another exciting and positive term ahead.

Mrs Ellison and the Year 3 team

Word List for Year 2

kind	gold	any	move
find	told	many	prove
mind	plant	door	busy
behind	Mr	poor	again
wild	Mrs	floor	sugar
child	most	our	who
last	both	hour	climb
past	children	only	clothes
fast	water	money	improve
path	because	even	break
bath	people	half	great
pass	should	whole	steak
class	could	parents	Christmas
grass	would	father	beautiful
old	everybody	pretty	
cold	after	eye	
hold	every	sure	

Word List for Year 3

address	answer	appear	arrive
believe	bicycle	calendar	centre
century	certain	complete	continue
decide	describe	early	earth
eight/eighth	experience	experiment	extreme
famous	favourite	February	forward(s)
fruit	grammar	group	history
important	learn	length	library
minute	natural	notice	often
perhaps	popular	probably	promise
quarter	question	regular	remember
sentence	special	strange	strength
therefore	woman	women	