

1<sup>st</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Class 3 2021. It has been a wonderful start to the new school year with all the children settling in well and enjoying some normality after the last unpredictable year. New friendships have been formed as well as the renewing of others and it has been a delight to see all of the children return to school with such positive and enthusiastic attitudes. Here is what some of the children in class 3 have to say about their return to school:

*I am happy to be back sitting with my friends.*

*We have really enjoyed outdoor learning especially map work.*

*I like that we have new group seats every week.*

*We have really enjoyed doing Jigsaw especially learning the song and making our class charter.*

### Topic

In Class 3 our topic this half term has an art focus. We will be admiring and critiquing the works of local artists as well as creating some works of art of our own of the local area and beyond. At the end of the half term, we are hoping to create our own art exhibition to display what we have made.

### Maths

In Maths we will be continuing with the INSPIRE maths scheme as well as offering opportunities to use their mathematics skills in other areas of the curriculum. Please encourage your child to practise their maths skills at home as much as possible. Skills such as times tables, telling the time and money especially if they come up in natural situations such as shopping. We can also recommend websites such as 'Hit the Button' or 'Top Marks' <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>.

### Spellings

Spellings will be set every week on Spelling frame. Please encourage your child to practise at home by logging into <https://spellingframe.co.uk/> The children log into spelling frame twice a week in school, once to practise their words and once to take the test. They will take their test on a Tuesday or Wednesday morning and their new words will be there Wednesday afternoon. If you are having any difficulty accessing the site please contact us.

### Reading

Your child should have a reading folder, book and reading log which goes home with them. Please could you ensure that this comes back into school on a Tuesday to be sent back home at the late st Thursday. This will allow us to keep your child's book up to date and at the right level for them. An adult will read with your child at least once a week in school. This might be their home book or through a group reading session.

### Handwriting

In our class we will focus on handwriting twice a week. The emphasis of the handwriting skills will be specific to each child whether that is basic letter formation or more formal joins to support cursive handwriting. We will always encourage and support the children with their handwriting in any written task.

### Homework

Homework is set on Google Classroom at the beginning of the half term. This will be a grid with enough tasks for at least one a week. These will include Maths, English, Welsh, Science and Topic. The children can then decide which task they would like to complete each week. Homework can be handed in on Google Classroom or a hard copy can be handed in to school. One piece of homework should be handed in each week and will be marked or commented on by the following week.

### Water bottles and snack

Children are allowed to bring a bottle of water to school, these are kept just outside the classroom and the children are able to access them as and when they need. Staff will refill bottles with water throughout the day if needed. In order to promote healthy eating in line with Welsh Government guidance we encourage water in the classroom and fruit and vegetables at snack time.

### Outdoor learning

Please provide your child with appropriate clothing for these sessions. Our aim will be to go outside whatever the weather. It is important the children have a waterproof coat, sensible shoes and jumpers, hats, gloves when appropriate. The children can bring in a pair of wellies to keep on their peg to change into for this activity if possible.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child please do not hesitate to contact school and speak to us, we will do our best to help.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Newton and Mrs Adams