



September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Class 3 - the first year of Juniors! We hope you have had a restful and enjoyable summer break. It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school and see their smiling faces again. We are really looking forward to getting to know you and your children over the next few weeks.

The teaching assistants working in Class 3 will be Mrs Gregory and Mrs Ufton. We are all looking forward to working with the children and have lots of exciting things planned for the year ahead.

Our global theme and core text

Our global theme for the first half term is **Identity and Diversity**. Our children will be exploring what makes people unique.



Our core text is "Grandad's Island" by Benji Davies. We will enjoy sharing this text and reading it together over the half term. We will use this text to guide our independent writing.

Our learning

In Maths the children will begin by learning about place value - representing numbers to 100 and 1000. They will be understanding the value of hundreds, tens and ones and ordering numbers on a number line. A key focus this year will be to master their 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

In English, we will be using our core text as inspiration to write a setting description and then a diary entry. We will be continuing to learn spelling words based on different spelling rules and the Year 3 statutory spelling words. Spellings will be set and tested on Fridays and children really benefit from your support when learning them at home. We find 'little and often' works well.

In Science our topic is 'Plants' where the children will be learning about the function of the different parts, how flowering plants transport water and how seeds are dispersed.

In RE the children will be learning what different people from different faiths believe about God.

Our PSHE learning will be based upon relationships where we will be learning to recognise and respect different types of families, what being in a family means and how we can care for each other.

In Art we will be focussing on drawing and using our skills to explore botanical drawings.

Our computing curriculum will be learning how to be safe online and learning about computer systems and networks.

Key information

Please send your child into school with a freshly filled water bottle each day. This must contain water only and no juice.

In Class 3, we have a morning playtime when children can bring in their own **healthy fruit snack** if they wish. They are no longer eligible for the government free fruit scheme now they are in Key Stage 2.

PE

Our PE sessions will be on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays** this half term. Children should come to school wearing their full PE uniform on these two days. Please ensure children are wearing a Smalley PE kit - plain white T-shirt/polo shirt, black shorts/leggings/tracksuit bottoms (dependent on the weather), plain black/white trainers or pumps and a red/blue sweatshirt or hooded top with or without the school logo. Earrings must be removed either before coming to school or by the children themselves before PE lessons. A reminder of the school and PE uniform expectation is on our website.

Reading

Reading continues to be a priority across the school and it is vital that children are sharing stories and reading books regularly. Please ensure your child brings their book bag with their reading book and diary into school daily as there may be opportunities for them to read to adults in school. Please sign your child's reading diary when you have heard your child read.

We have lots of exciting things planned for the first half term. We are learning new routines and expectations as a class and will be spending time focusing on well-being and our school and class values as well as getting to know each other.

Your ongoing support is appreciated and we look forward to working together over the coming year. If you have any questions, however small, please make contact by popping over to us at the end of the day, using the school office email (info@richardson.derbyshire.sch.uk) or a telephone call.

Kindest regards,

Mr Channing