



SS PHILIP & JAMES' CHURCH OF ENGLAND
VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

Together we shine

3SD Newsletter

Autumn Term September – December 2019

Dear 3SD Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new year at Phil and Jim! I am delighted to be joining the school and am looking forward to working with your children in the coming year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for being so welcoming to me thus far. Our teaching assistants this year will be Mr Villalba and Miss Law, who are also new to the school, do say hello if you see them at drop off or pick up.

Communication

If you have any queries and would like to make an appointment, please email the office and I will aim to respond within 48 hours.

Topic this term

Our topic for this term will be based around the book *The Lost Words* by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris. The book is comprised of poems and rich illustrations which make use of nature words, such as kingfisher, adder and fern, which have been recently removed from the Oxford Children's Dictionary as they are thought to no longer be used by children. This term we will bring these words into the classroom and hope to bring them to life for your children.

Maths and English

We will start the year by studying and writing warning tales in English. These are stories whereby a character receives a warning and chooses to ignore it. We will then study a non-fiction unit.

In Maths, we will be working on number, place value and rounding, mental calculation, as well as addition and subtraction.

Children are expected to know their 2, 5 and 10 times tables from Year 2. This year we will be learning our 3, 4 and 8 times tables. We will be practicing these in class and children will be encouraged to practice these at home with support. All children will have a Times Tables Rockstars login to use at school and home. This resource can be accessed via an easy-to-use app available for ipads, tablets and most smartphones, as well as online.

Learning at home

All children have a reading record and should be supported to read frequently at home. Children will receive 1 house point for reading 3 times a week (and having the record signed); 2 house points for reading 5 times a week; and 3 house points for reading 7 times a week. Records will be collected in on Fridays, but please ensure your child has it in school every day as Mr Villalba and I will be hearing the children read throughout the week.

Learning logs are given out on Fridays and need to be handed in on Wednesday in order to be marked.

PE kits

This term, your child will have PE lessons on Monday and Wednesday. A full school PE kit is required for PE lessons, to include a separate pair of PE trainers. If your child does not currently have the school PE kit this can be purchased via the school website. PE kit should be in school on Monday and taken home on Friday. Long hair must be tied back, and jewellery removed for all PE lessons.

Morning routine

The school gates will open at 8:40am and school will begin promptly at 8:50am. You may drop children off at the cloakroom door however, for safeguarding reasons, please do not enter the toilets or the rest of the school either at this time or at the end of the school day. At home time, the class will be let out of the white door opening onto the courtyard.

If you have made other plans for your child getting home, please could you inform Mr Villalba or I in the morning or email the Office to let them know.

Shoes for school

It is recommended that your child wear sensible and robust footwear which is appropriate for both classroom and playground activities. A separate pair of PE trainers is required for PE lessons. As weather becomes colder, you are advised to have a pair of wellies or other all-weather footwear to be kept in school.

Specialist teachers

Mrs Sonley, a music specialist, will be teaching children for recorders on Tuesdays.

The children will have Mrs Poole for German and Mr Sadler for PE on Wednesdays. They will also be learning Mandarin with a specialist teacher on Thursdays.

Drinks bottles

Please can all children bring a drinks bottle to school, to be filled with water only. Water fountains are available for bottles to be re-filled independently.

Thank you for your warm welcome. I am looking forward to our work together this term!

Miss Sprague-Davies