

Class 3 Information

Autumn Term 2022



Welcome to Class 3 based in Helvellyn classroom. This newsletter aims to keep you up to date about how things are going to work this year and will hopefully form a handy reference. Mrs Wadey teaches Class 3 every day and on Thursday afternoons we have Mrs Craggs for PE.

Arriving and Leaving

Children should arrive from 8.35am and enter by walking through Bowfell outdoor area, round the back and in through Class 3's outside door. Here they will find their pegs for coats, PE bags and lunch boxes. Reply slips and payments should be placed in our green box. Everyone has morning tasks to settle to each morning and these include number and word tasks as well as a rota of computer tasks like IDL or times tables. Arriving promptly means we can all get settled and organized to begin our day calmly. We aim to have everyone organised, working and ready for registration by 8.45am each day.

At the new time of 3.15pm, the children will leave through Bowfell outdoor area. We expect that your child will be collected by someone that is known to us and to your child, unless we have been informed of different arrangements.

Contacting School

For a quick message or question then it is best to email the class account at class3@levens.cumbria.sch.uk, however, I'm not always able to access emails before school, so if urgent you may call or email the office. I will aim to get back to you within 48hours of you sending your message. Unfortunately, I am not available for face-to-face discussions with parents in the mornings before school as I'm preparing for the teaching day. If your query requires a little more time or is confidential please make an appointment to see me at another time via emailing the office or the class address or by catching up with me at the end of the day.

Uniform and Equipment

All uniform, including PE kit, needs to be clearly named please.

All children have their own named pencil and we have lots of colouring and crafting things to use in class. Please keep your pencil cases and colouring pens for use at home.

Water bottles and Snack

Please bring in a named water bottle to be stored in school by our sink. Children from year 3 upwards are encouraged to bring a piece of fruit/veg to eat at playtime especially important on Wednesday's swimming days as our lunch will be slightly later than usual.

PE

PE lessons take place on Monday afternoons with Mrs Craggs and Friday afternoons. All children should have a basic PE kit in school every day in a bag on their peg. If it is wet on our PE day, unless the weather is particularly poor, we will be outside so spare socks and a thin waterproof jacket would be useful additions.

Swimming

As you already know, we are delighted to be swimming at the Leisure Centre in Kendal during the autumn term, starting on Wednesday 14th September. We travel by coach. Children are assessed during the first lesson and grouped according to ability. Trained swimming instructors take all groups. Earrings must be removed and everyone wears a swimming hat in the pool. Swimming Kit checklist – towel, costume/trunks, swimming hat, optional goggles.

Homework

Homework will be set every week on a Monday and should be handed in by the following Monday. All homework tasks are tailored specifically to your child's ability. This will usually take the form of a sheet of paper with clear instructions on a task which might be Maths (number facts or games), English (spellings or sentence work) or topic based tasks. Spellings and number facts tasks are presented in a way that supports long remembered learning. Practising a little and often, rather than completing the whole sheet in one go, is recommended. Children may need support in managing this and getting in good routines that fit around their other weekly commitments.

Reading is also part of our weekly homework and everyone should read at least five times a week for 10-15mins; keeping a note of all reading in reading records. This helps us to monitor reading and talk to the children about their reading routines and interests. Some children may prefer to read independently, although times to share a book and read with an adult are essential to develop fluency and comprehension skills right through school. We value parents' comments in reading record books though we encourage the children to make their own comments too as they become more fluent readers. Reading books are carefully monitored and book bags need to be in school every day and they should be taken home every evening. The children are lucky to have a very wide range of books in class from poetry, fiction, picture books, magazines and comics and all have access to our library for other non-fiction books. Some children will be given suitable books but, when appropriate, we encourage the children to make their own decisions about what they want to read.

Times tables is an important focus in Years 3 and 4, learning all times table facts up to $\times 12$. It takes much effort and constant revision for instant recall to be embedded and each times table needs to be reviewed often. As a guide, Year 3 should be revising multiplication and division facts linked to $2x$, $5x$ and $10x$ then learn $3x$, $4x$ and $8x$. By the summer term Year 4 children need to know all their multiplication and division table facts up to $12x$. This means with quick recall of under 6 seconds!

We recommend the following structured approach:

Firstly, learning and chanting the sequence of answers forwards and backwards

3, 6, 9, 12 and 36, 33, 30

Then learning and chanting the complete \times and \div calculation

$1 \times 3 = 3$, $2 \times 3 = 6$ and $3 \div 3 = 1$, $6 \div 3 = 2$

Followed by learning to answer out of order questions with quick recall.

Learning tables is ongoing homework and support from home is always appreciated.

IDL is an online spelling and reading programme which everyone in our class will use. **TTRockstars** is an online game for supporting learning and progress in times tables which pupils in years 3 and 4 use. Both these programmes can be accessed at home, details on our website.

Praise and Rewards

Achievements in behaviour and work are praised through many and varied actions such as thumbs up, smiles, rounds of applause, verbal and written praise and team points. Children may also be mentioned in our Golden Book, which is added to by all staff members, and this is shared with the whole school in Celebration Assembly each Friday.

We use our school website, especially the wonderful blog and our class page (found via Pupils, Class Three – Years 3&4), to keep you informed and share our learning with you with photos and information. We hope many of you will be able to attend our classroom drop-ins on Wednesday 26th September, between 3.30 and 4.15. I look forward to catching up with you very soon.

What will we be learning in the Autumn Term?

Maths: We will focus on number work this term, learning about our number system and place value along with sequences, comparing and rounding. We will be exploring a progression of methods of adding and subtracting, multiplying and dividing. We will be applying our number skills to estimating and problem solving.

English: We will begin our term with traditional storytelling techniques around Aesop's Fables. We will then explore Stone Age Boy by Satoshi Kitamura linked to our history and then an adventure story called The Christmasaurus by Tom Fletcher. We will base our writing around these text. We will have guided reading sessions twice every week where the children will study a range of texts in detail. This term we will have a special focus on learning and practising correct letter formation and joined handwriting. Spelling/phonics, punctuation and grammar will be worked on each day in morning tasks and English lessons.

Science: Animals including humans exploring nutrition, skeletons and muscles, digestion and teeth.

History: Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age – what changes occurred and how we can find out about this time without written evidence.

PE: Swimming – begins on Wed 14th Sept. Invasion Games Skills - learning attacking and defending skills and strategies applying these to Handball, as well as a separate unit of gymnastics.

Computing: Understanding about digital devices that have inputs, processes and outputs and learning what the internet is.

RE: Why do Christians celebrate harvest? Compare with Jewish celebration of Sukkoth. Then what is it like to follow God from the perspective of Noah? Why is light a key feature in the Christmas story? Christian Value: Love

Art: Inspiration from the first Stone Age cave drawings and painting landscapes in watercolour and pen.

DT: Our DT week will be the last of each half term focusing on exploring pneumatics and making a pneumatic toy followed by developing a program, using a Micro:bit electronic charm.

French: Parts of the body, numbers and simple conversations in a café.

Music: Singing and developing musical notation then playing and improvising on glockenspiels in various styles.

SCARF: Me and my relationships including pets, and special people, solving problems and friendship. Followed by exploring rights and responsibilities in staying safe and healthy and looking at our rights and paying taxes.

Mrs Wadey