

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to Year 3! It is lovely to have the children back in school, enjoying the freedom of fewer restrictions. It's wonderful to be able to welcome parents onto the school grounds once more. We have really enjoyed the start of term together getting to know one another, sharing news and launching the term's projects. As you know, our exciting new topic for this Autumn term is 'People on the Move' (Anglo-Saxons and Scots). We aim to bring this topic alive for the children by providing some stimulating 'hands on' experiences for them. We will have 'Anglo Saxon' themed days in school where the children will be able to wear their costumes (see additional homework letter) and take part in some Saxon cookery and feasting. So much to look forward to!



Thank you for name labelling your children's uniform items and PE kit. This will really help the children stay organised and keep items out of lost property. Please name costume items and any new items purchased throughout the year. Children are still permitted to come to school wearing their P.E kits every Monday and Friday. Please ensure St. Andrew's colours are worn. Water bottles need to be non-spill and non-shatter and must be taken home for washing each day.

Homework will be given out on Friday and must be handed in no later than the following **Wednesday**. There will be a spelling test every **Monday** morning. Children will receive their scores and new spellings to learn every Monday. Folders must be returned by **Monday** so that new ones can be given. Just a reminder that spellings should be practised over short bursts, each evening or walking to school. As part of their weekly homework we expect children to be practising the relevant times tables or division facts at home. All children will start on the 2x. Once they have scored 20/20 they will progress to the $2\frac{1}{2}$, then 5x, $5\frac{1}{2}$ etc. Times tables are tested on **Thursdays**. This is important as by the end of year 3, children are expected to be confident with all times tables up to and including the 8 times. It is quite a challenge! Number bond facts will continue on from Year 2. There will also be a mental maths test every Wednesday, which will help the children become familiar with the key skills and mathematical vocabulary. We will send these tests home for you to support your child with any misconceptions. You could give new questions by changing the numbers. Please encourage your child to use online Mathletics as often as possible to help deepen their understanding. We will check scores weekly and give children certificates. Children will also be encouraged to use Times Tables Rockstars and Spelling Shed. These will be introduced in class. We will send login reminders in homework books soon. As in all year groups, a minimum of 20 minutes reading should be completed each evening. Please support your child to do this and discuss any tricky vocabulary as well as storylines. We change books every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please do let us know if you have any concerns, or you feel your child would benefit from moving up a reading level. We are also keen to enrich the children's 'reading diet' with books chosen from class / school or home libraries, in line with their own interests. Please keep a record of 'non-scheme books' read in reading diaries, (using one box at a time as usual). This will help us to ensure that everyone is being listened to each evening to develop fluency, expression and comprehension. We are very fortunate to have the support of a familiar teaching assistant, Mrs Dudley and Miss Malein, a teacher who will work with individual children and groups across Year 3 and 4 to help accelerate their learning.

Many thanks for your anticipated support. If you have any queries, please feel free to pop in anytime after school to speak with one of the team and we will endeavour to help. A written letter or e-mail can often be helpful as it can be kept as a record in our communication book. Remember to check the school website for regular updates and pictures of events and activities. We are very much looking forward to working together with you in this next chapter of your child's journey at St. Andrew's.

Kind regards,

Miss Mann, Mrs Dean, Miss Dann, Mrs Dudley and Miss Malein.
(The Year 3 Team)

