



Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself properly and to say a huge thank you for the incredibly warm welcome I have received since joining the school. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know your children and I have been so impressed by their enthusiasm, kindness and willingness to learn. I already feel very much part of the school community and I am genuinely excited about the journey ahead with Year 3.

There is so much fantastic learning taking place across the curriculum at the moment. In English, the children are developing their reading and writing skills through a range of exciting texts including non-fiction information texts, biographies and fictional legends. We are focusing on building strong sentence structure, developing vocabulary and understanding key grammar features such as past tense verbs. The children have shown real engagement in discussions and have been keen to share their ideas and opinions, which has been wonderful to see.

In Maths, we are working hard on building secure foundations in number and measurement. Recent learning has included multiplication and division, measuring length in millimetres, centimetres and metres, comparing mass and capacity, and exploring fractions. The children have enjoyed practical activities, including measuring tasks and problem-solving challenges, which really help to bring their learning to life.

Our Science lessons have been full of curiosity and investigation as we explore rocks, soils and fossils. The children have been asking thoughtful questions and making sensible predictions, showing great scientific thinking. In History, we are learning about the Bronze Age and Iron Age, comparing how people lived and considering how life has changed over time. Geography lessons will soon focus on the world around us, including maps, globes and understanding where we are in the world.

We also continue to enjoy a wide range of creative and practical subjects. In Art and Design Technology, pupils are developing their skills through structured projects. In PE, children are taking part in gymnastics and team sports, building coordination, confidence and teamwork. Music lessons with Mrs Cooke are always a highlight of the week and the children are thoroughly enjoying developing their musical skills.

Religious Education remains central to school life. We are learning about key stories, Sacraments and the life of Jesus, and reflecting on what this means for us today. For those preparing for First Holy Communion, regular church attendance is strongly encouraged wherever possible, as it plays an important role in supporting their faith journey.

A few important reminders:

Please ensure your child reads at least four times per week at home and that this is recorded in their reading diary. Regular reading makes a huge difference to confidence, fluency and comprehension.

Homework will continue to be set weekly. Thank you for your ongoing support with this, it really does make a difference.

PE lessons take place on Tuesdays and Fridays. Please ensure your child comes to school in the correct PE kit on these days.

Outdoor Education will be taking place fortnightly on Wednesday afternoons, weather permitting. I will keep you updated in advance so you know when sessions are scheduled. Please ensure suitable clothing is provided for outdoor learning.

Once again, thank you for being so welcoming and supportive. It truly makes a difference and I feel very lucky to be working with such a wonderful class and community. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Warm regards,

David Arundell
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