



# Happy New Year!

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas holiday and have had a good start to 2019.

The Year 3 team, who are keen to continue to work with you closely throughout the Spring term, remains unchanged and is as follows:

Class	Teaching Staff	Teaching Assistants
Wrens	Mr Day	Mrs Jones
Kingfishers	Miss Buckland	Mrs Burgess
Puffins	Mrs Pagani (Mon and Tues) Mrs Margree (Wed, Thurs and Fri)	Miss Watts (am) Mrs Raitskin (am) Mrs White (pm-Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri)
Jays	Mrs Morris (Mon, Tues) Miss Marpole (Wed, Thurs, Fri)	Miss Beckett (am) Mrs Fox-Atkins (am)

We are also very pleased to welcome Mrs Wagstaff who, as well as being the school's new SENDCO, will also be teaching one of our Maths sets.

## Our Curriculum

Last term saw many exciting events including our visit to Gressenhall, where the children had the opportunity to see what life was like for Stone Age people, and our performance of 'The Light of Christmas'. Our thematic approach to learning continues this term, with 'Light Up London' being our main topic for the first half term and 'Plant Power' for the second half term. Again, we have many cross-curricular activities planned to interest and inspire the children, including taking part in the RSPB's Bird watching event and a visit to Cambridge Botanic Gardens. Please invite your child to share their learning with you and encourage them to carry out additional research at home. To give you an insight, an overview of the Spring term curriculum is attached.

## General Learning

We are fully committed to supporting your child to become a confident and successful learner. To enable us to support your child as fully as possible, a personalised approach to learning will continue this term, with ongoing assessments informing our planning and teaching in the classroom and in intervention groups. To discuss your child's progress so far this year, we would like to invite you to our Spring term Parents' Evenings, which take place on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>** and **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January**. We strongly value the link between home and school, so please do come to talk to your child's class teacher at any stage in the term if you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning.

## Lost Property

We understand your frustration when children lose their belongings, and for some this seemed to happen quite regularly last term. Our aim is to reduce the amount of lost property by encouraging the children to respect their own and each other's belongings, as well as taking more responsibility for the tidiness of the cloakrooms. We would greatly appreciate it if you could help us with this by ensuring that all items of clothing are clearly labelled.

## P.E

To enable full participation, please ensure your child has their full P.E. kit in school on Monday. It should remain in school until the end of the week. During the winter months, it is also important to ensure your child has a tracksuit or warm top for the Thursday session as children will be outside whenever possible.

## Helping in school

Last term we were very grateful for the regular help offered by several parents both in class and hearing readers. If there is anyone else with a spare hour or so who would like to help, please come to talk to us. All volunteers will need to complete a DBS (Disclosure and Barring System) check.

## Home Learning

**Reading** – Reading is the most powerful part of a child’s education and we greatly value all the time you dedicate to sharing books with your child. Please continue to read with your child at least **3 times per week** and record it in their school planner for a reward to be given. Planners need to be handed in every Monday so that team points can be awarded. (NB- Kingfishers collect their planners on Tuesdays)

**Numeracy** – Children will continue to receive weekly homework for Numeracy. This will be handed out on Tuesdays and due in the following Monday. If Maths homework is not returned by the Tuesday, we ask the children to complete the activity during the start of Tuesday lunchtime. All sets are now receiving multiplication tests to practise. The practice sheet is handed out on Friday ready for a test the following Friday. Your child will receive the times table they are currently working on. Times Tables Rockstars is also another good way of practising tables. If your child has lost their login please contact school and we will let you know what it is.

**Spellings**- Children will continue to receive weekly spellings. These will be sent home on Mondays for Kingfishers and Tuesdays for Puffins, Jays and Wrens. They will then be tested a week later.

## Home/School Communication

We hope the information we have provided in this letter will answer most of the questions you may have at this stage of the term. If you do have further questions or concerns, please do let us know by finding us on the playground at the end of the day or by booking an appointment via the school office. Alternatively, write a message in your child’s school planner and remind your child to place it on their teacher’s desk at the start of the day.

## Dates for your diary:

- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January – Parents’ Evening (3:30-7:00pm)
- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January – Parents’ Evening (3:30-7:00pm)
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January-PTA Bring Bake
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March- Class photos
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Year 3 trip to Cambridge Botanical Gardens (2 classes each day)
- Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March and Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March – PTA Mother’s Day gifts
- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April- Finish for Easter.

Wishing you and your child an enjoyable and successful 2019,

The Year 3 team