



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School

Autumn 2017

Class Newsletter

Year 3

Class Teacher: Miss E Boulton

Dear Parents

Welcome back to school and I hope that you have had a lovely summer break. Firstly, thank you all for making me feel so welcome, I feel very privileged to be working with your child this year.

This is a very exciting year for your child as they are now a Junior. They have settled in well and have adapted quickly to their new class. There is a lot of hard work ahead and I have high expectations for all of the class.

There will be lots of fun-filled, but challenging, activities so that your child really enjoys their learning experience but at the same time strives to make the very best progress. They will be expected to challenge themselves in all areas of the curriculum. In addition to this, your child has reached an important Sacramental year as they will now be preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.



Your child recently brought home a letter of important dates for your diary for the preparation Parents' Meetings, Masses and of course, the dates of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. It is essential that you attend all of the preparation meetings and Masses, so please make a note of these dates in your diary.

Attendance at Sunday Mass is crucial so that your child can develop their understanding of the Mass and responses they are expected to learn. Prayer, Liturgy and understanding of the Gospel message is an integral part of your child's education here at Our Lady of Fatima. School. Please do try to support and encourage your child during this very special year.



Father Craig really does like to see the children and their families at the weekend Masses at Our Lady of Fatima Church on Higgins Lane.

Religious Education

Year 3 will learn all about belonging to the family of

God. They will understand the importance of belonging to the church. They will also deepen their understanding of how they listen and respond to God's word at Sunday Mass and the structure of the Liturgy of the Word.



In addition each child will bring home the Class Prayer Bag. Please look at and use the resources inside the bag to pray as a family together as well as encouraging your child to write a prayer to share during class worship.

Literacy

Year 3 will read a range of stories written by the same author. They will focus on speech, powerful verbs, conjunctions and suffixes. The children will develop editing, drafting and re-drafting their own stories.

After this unit they will learn how to write clear instructions and create interesting explanation texts.

Handwriting will be practised and modelled daily and the children will learn how to form joined handwriting correctly and neatly. There will be high expectations for neat presentation in all of the children's books.

Spellings



Key spellings will be given out on Mondays to learn in time for Friday's spelling test. On occasions, spelling tests will include previously learnt spellings. This is to ensure that your child's understanding is always linked to new and previous learning.

Reading



I like to promote a love of reading and will be encouraging your child to read in class at least twice daily as well as teaching reading skills through guided reading and comprehension activities. Home reading books will be changed frequently and reading diaries checked and monitored every day.

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Reading each evening at home with your child is essential. Please also encourage your child to re-read their book at bedtime in order to help your child settle off to sleep.

Guided Reading

Year 3 will also be reading a range of books in class in small groups. Guided reading enables the teaching of reading skills and allows the teacher to gather information as to how well the children's understanding of the text is developing. Asking the children a range of key questions deepens their thinking.

Please note Year 3 will be visiting the school library every Wednesday so library books should be back in school by this day each week so your child can have the opportunity to change their book.

Mathematics

Number and place value: The children will be encouraged to read and write numbers up to 1000. They will also learn how to recognise the value of each digit in a three digit number and how to find 10 and 100 more or less than a given number.



Addition and subtraction: The children will learn how to accurately add and subtract mentally, to know and understand number bonds and then develop and understand the more formal written methods.

Shape space and measure: Maths skills include understanding properties of 2D and 3D shapes, learning about length, measuring the perimeters of 2D shapes, adding and subtracting lengths (m, cm, mm) and converting lengths. Reasoning and problem solving skills will be practised to deepen their understanding when solving number problems practically.

Times tables—The '99 club' will take place every week so that your child will develop their knowledge and rapid recall of times tables facts. Times tables will be taught and practised daily up to the 12 times tables.

Science

Rocks and soils— Year 3 will learn how to identify naturally occurring rocks and explore their uses; they will learn to group rocks according to their characteristics and will have the opportunity to identify rocks that are used for particular purposes, what fossils and soils are and how they are formed.



Creative Curriculum

Geography and History This topic will be linked to a theme of 'Community' and Year 3 will learn more about

the UK as group of countries and counties. They will look at particular features within these counties and will also be able to name some capital cities and famous landmarks.

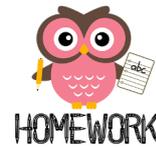
In addition, the children will learn about the beginning of settlements in the UK with a particular focus on changes from the Stone Age to the Iron Age.

PE—WEDNESDAYS

The school PE kit consists of a pair of navy shorts, a white tee shirt and a pair of pumps.

In PE this term Year 3 will learn to further develop skills by playing invasion games. The children will learn and understand how to be aware of space and how to use it to support their team members. They will learn how to always follow the rules of the game in order to keep the game going well. They will also develop throwing and catching skills and an understanding of the need to 'pass' to a team member in order for goals to be scored. Defending skills will also be developed by choosing a range of tactics to defend, making it challenging for opponent to score in a game.

Homework



Homework will be handed out **every Friday** to be completed and returned by the **following Wednesday**. There will always be Maths, Literacy and Topic homework to support and develop their understanding. Homework will be a

consolidation of the week's learning or something that has been previously covered. Please encourage your child to complete homework tasks as independently as possible but offer support as required to ensure that any homework tasks are completed to the highest standard. All homework should be completed using a sharp pencil.

Fresh Drinking Water

The children are encouraged to drink water throughout the school day, so please send in a water bottle which can be filled from the water dispenser.

I hope that this newsletter has informed you of the exciting learning that will be taking place this term.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or queries.

I look forward to meeting you at Parents' Evening and again at Year 3's Inspire Workshop on Tuesday 14th November 2017.

Yours sincerely

Miss E Boulton