

Friday, 13th September 2019

Dear parents, guardians, carers and families,

Welcome to Year 3!

In Year 3, there are two classes: Mrs Price's class whose classroom is named Dream Country and Miss Jones' class whose classroom is named The Shire. Year 3 teaching assistants are **Miss Cripps** and **Mrs Payne**. **Mrs King** will be working in Mrs Price's class on Wednesday mornings and also in both year 3 classes Thursday afternoon. The Year 3 classrooms are located upstairs in the Upper Hall area of Gorse Hill School.

Introduction to the Teachers

Mrs Price has worked in Gorse Hill School since 2015. Before then, she taught in London for 3 years and Hereford for 7 years. She is the English Subject leader at Gorse Hill. Mrs Price loves reading and spending time with her family.

Miss Jones is just starting at Gorse Hill after finishing her time at University. She is very excited to start her career in teaching. Miss Jones enjoys walking her dog, reading and swimming and will often do these in her spare time.

Term 1: Long, Long ago

This term, our school will be learning about **Long, Long Ago**. Each year group will explore the topic in different ways relating to the aims and objectives of their age. For Year 3, we will be studying rocks in Science. We will investigate the formation of rocks, the different types of rocks and how fossils are produced. In addition to this, we will be learning about the Stone Age. We will go back in time to discover what life was like for early man. We will explore how humans evolved as we travel from the early Stone Age (Paleolithic Age) to the new Stone Age (Neolithic Age).

During this term, the classes will have the opportunity to visit Stonehenge and experience a small part of the Stone Age in person. We are incredibly lucky to have such a 'wonder of the world' on our doorstep for the children to experience. During our visit, the children will learn stories and myths associated with Stonehenge as well as viewing some artefacts found in the area and recreated Stone communities (huts).

Daily Routine: Mornings and Timetable

Each day, the teachers (Mrs Price and Miss Jones) will arrive on the playground at **8.30am**. Please feel free to speak to us and discuss your child's learning and share your ideas. Remember, we are here to support your children as much as possible as we want the absolute best for them. Children line up at the coloured pencils and it is very important that they come and line up, greet their teachers and form an orderly line so that school can commence in a peaceful and orderly fashion. School begins at **8.35am** and the bell will ring. Remember that as soon as the bell has rung, the school gates will be closed and children that arrive after this time will receive a late mark.

When children arrive in class, they will have a range of activities to focus on immediately. These tasks will vary depending on the day and previous learning. The activities will include handwriting, spellings, grammar or number fluency. It is imperative that children come into school fully ready to learn and that means breakfast, correct school uniform and a positive attitude which we expect every day. The structure of the average school day can be viewed below.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8.35-8.40 As we enter the classroom, children will have this opportunity to change their reading books which are located in the upper hall outside our classrooms.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8.55 Spellings • 9.15 Reading lesson – the whole class explore a range of comprehension skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9.45 Maths lesson focused on the day's new learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10.45 Break time which lasts for 15 minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11.00 Writing lesson which includes punctuation and grammar
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11.50 Class novel to be shared with the children
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12.10 Lunch time- Year 3 will be escorted to the hall for packed lunches and hot dinners.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.00 Reading fluency
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.15 – 3.00 The average day will include a 20-30 minutes maths fluency lesson. This will be followed by one of the following: topic (history and/or geography), science, music, PSHE. RE, PE, Art and DT.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.00 Class novel to be shared with the children
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.20 Classes will arrive at the pencils ready to be collected by their families

PE

PE will take place every Tuesday and Thursdays. We recommend that children bring their kit in on a Monday and keep it here throughout the week. This is because the timetable can change on the odd occasion. Therefore, children are prepared for the whole week.

Home Learning

Please explore the home learning materials which are located on Miss Jones' and Mrs Price's class blog pages in order to support your child's journey through Year 3. If you have any queries regarding the learning that children undertake at home, please do not hesitate to contact the Year 3 team or an Assistant Principal. It is recommended that **children read daily**. In year 3, children will be guided to the reading books which are appropriate to their current reading level and children

should change these regularly. As well as this, children are welcome to take reading books home from class which may not be at their reading level but a book which they are interested in. It is important to return these books as soon as they are finished with to allow other children the opportunity of reading that book.

Key Instant Recall Facts

This is replacing the non-negotiables for Maths this year. The number facts are what the children need to know. There are top tips and ways of deepening the children's understand and how to apply these into problems.

Website

Please visit our class page on our website for updates, letters and photos that we will be adding throughout the year.

We both wish all of our new families a warm welcome to Year 3. We look forward to meeting you all in the near future.

Warmest regards,

Mrs Price, Miss Jones, Mrs King, Miss Cripps and Mrs Payne.