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31st July 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are very excited to be welcoming you into our school. In preparation for September, please find below some key information about the forthcoming year.

Curriculum Map

A curriculum map, which is a general overview of the learning your child will be doing, will be available on our website. If you require a hard copy, please contact the office.

Healthy Snacks

Children are able to bring in a healthy snack for their morning break. They are welcome to bring in fruit, cereal bars or any healthy alternative. Please note that crisps, chocolate bars and sweets are not considered as acceptable healthy snacks and **we are strictly a nut free school**. Children will also need to bring in their own named water bottle, so they have access to drinking water during the day. This will be returned home each day to be washed.

Homework

All weekly homework will be set online via Purple Mash. Your child's log in details will be sent in the autumn term. Their passwords should not be changed. If you have any problems with accessing the online platforms, or your child has limited computer access, please contact your child's class teacher via the office.

Spelling: This will be set via Purple Mash every Monday. Each child should practise their spellings at home during the week and complete the Purple Mash quiz by the following Monday. They will be tested in school every Friday. We would encourage your child to use a range of strategies to help them learn their spellings and they may wish to practise them on paper. An overview of the spellings for each term will be uploaded to Purple Mash to view.

Maths: This will be set every Monday to be completed by the following Monday. Your child can use their homework book for calculations and times tables practise. We encourage you to practise multiplication tables with your child each week.

The first week of homework is **Monday 25th September**

Home Reading

Your child will be able to select two books from the library each week. One will be a banded book for them to read at school and the other is a free choice book to read at home. When reading with your child, we would ask that you fill out their reading log. These will be looked at on a weekly basis. Your child's library days are as follows so please can you ensure their book is in their bag on these days should it need changing:

3JR – Monday
3S - Monday
3LR – Wednesday
3G – Wednesday
3GS – Thursday

Children will also have access to the Portsmouth ebook library service which offers a range of free ebooks and audio books. Login information will be sent home.

Mobile Phones and Social Media

It is recommended that your child does not bring a mobile phone to school as we cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage that may occur. However, if you decide it is necessary for your child, then they must turn their phone off on arrival at school and hand it to their class teacher at the start of the day. It will be stored in the classroom and returned at the end of the school day. Mobile phones should not be turned on until your child has left the school grounds. We would like to remind parents of the importance that children should not be using any social media platform which is below the legal age stated or without parental supervision. Therefore, any issues arising will always be referred back to parents.

PE and Games

PE will be on Mondays and Wednesdays for 3LR, 3JR, 3G and 3S. 3GS will have PE on Mondays and Fridays. It is important that your child wears their PE uniform into school on these days: blue or black shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms, yellow PE t shirt, a blue or black non hooded sweatshirt or top, and trainers or plimsolls.

We do not encourage the wearing of jewellery in school but children may wear a single pair of stud earrings and a watch. Earrings must be removed by the child or covered with a suitable microporous tape, which can be provided, during PE and games sessions. Please note that teachers and other members of staff are not permitted to remove a child's earrings so they must be able to remove or cover them themselves. Sports watches and Fit Bits must also be removed before games sessions.

School Uniform

All children are expected to wear school uniform. The uniform consists of a white polo-shirt or shirt; navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan (preferably with school logo); black or grey trousers, shorts or skirt and all black footwear. To avoid potential loss of clothing, please ensure all garments are clearly labelled with your child's name. Shoes should be completely black.

Spelling

This will be set every Monday, to be returned on the following Monday. Your child will have a homework book to practise their spellings and a weekly online quiz to complete. There will be a spelling assessment every Friday when your child will be tested on that week's words. We would encourage you to practise these words with your child on a daily basis, if possible.

Storage

All children will be provided with a locker where they are able to store their bags and coats. Please be aware that these lockers are large enough for a small school bag and are not suitable for rucksacks or any additional items. Lunch boxes are stored on separate trolleys.

Trips and Activities

In Year 3, there are a range of trips and activities for which we may require financial support. Please be aware that prices are **approximate**. However, at the request of parents, we have tried to detail these in advance for the year as follows:

- Design technology activities for a year - £2.00
- Skeleton workshop using museum artefacts September - £1.00
- Egyptian Museum Open Session (at school for parents) December – Free
- Hooke Court 3 day optional residential visit January - £185
- Stone Age Workshop (for non-residential children) January - £10
- Southsea Seafront April – Free
- Gunwharf Quays and Spinnaker Tower May - £10.00
- Just Different Workshop for PSHE July - £4.00

Finally, if at any time you have any queries or concerns, please let us know via the school office. We look forward to working with you to ensure your child has a successful year.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Robinson 3JR

Miss Reeves 3L

Mrs Gray 3G

Mrs Steward 3S

Miss Gaur-Sharma 3GS