

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have had a lovely summer holidays. Mrs Ross and I are ready and rearing to go and have some really exciting ideas and projects for the children to participate in this term. "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." This is a quote from Nelson Mandela and one we have discussed in class. I have asked the children to think about their own inspirational quote for this year and for education. If your child has not come up with one yet perhaps you could help them out today. We are going to display them all in class to inspire us throughout the year.

Routines and expectations this week were discussed last week and our Class Charter has also been written. Children have chosen five articles from the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) to include in our charter. The Class Charter states what the children believe to be the most important rights for our class. All children sign the Charter to show they believe in it. A copy of our Charter will be on display in our classroom. Please discuss the Charter with your child.

All children have been given a P.E bag, if one was required for P.E clothes and shoes. It is essential the children have a change of footwear for P.E lessons. We have a really exciting year already planned for the children. You will of course be finding out about planned educational visits and visitors in the very near future. Our first educational visit is Friday 11th September.

There will be weekly homework and a lunchtime homework club for children unable to complete homework on time. Year 6 children only have SATs Buster homework books and these must be completed in the given time as they need to be marked and given back to children as soon as possible. There is so much content for year 6 children to get through we have started by giving these books out straight away. Children will be informed which pages are expected to be completed. **End of Key Stage 2 National Tests will take place in the week commencing 9th May 2016.** Please do not book any holidays during this very important week. Spelling lists will continue to be sent home each week because we want our children to be fully prepared for the ever changing world. It will be **essential** for your child to practise spellings if necessary on a daily basis leading up to their weekly test on Monday.

Some Reminders

Drinks Bottles: most children have drinks bottles in school, but there are still a few children without this essential piece of equipment. Please ensure your child has one in school each day.

P.E Kit: black/navy shorts, white/yellow polo shirt or tee-shirt, gym shoes or trainers and a tracksuit top and/or tracksuit bottoms for outdoor P.E for cooler weather. Children are expected

to change for P.E. There will be many opportunities for members of the class to represent their school this year in sporting events. Children will therefore be expected to attend extra practices for these events.

Great websites: the following websites will give your child a chance to extend their learning in English and reinforce concepts they have learnt in Mathematics. There is homework help here too.

Bug club and Purple Mash - children have their own logins for this site.

www.nrich.maths.org

www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/>

The Curriculum

English and MFL

Speaking and listening activities are crucial to each unit of work and are always incorporated into lessons. In writing we will cover a range of texts including report writing, explanatory writing and a study of another book. Children will also be required this year to be able to recite a range of poetry off by heart.

Please encourage your child to practise their cursive handwriting at home for five minutes each night for the next two weeks.

This style will encourage your child to join their writing. Please do not hesitate to ask for a sample to be sent home so your child can practise. As you can see this is an example of the style of writing we are aiming for.

Throughout the year the children will continue to learn a range of sounds, skills and conversational French.

Mathematics

Topics this term include data handling, shape, Measures, and using and applying mathematics. There is an emphasis on formal written calculations. Children are expected to know their tables facts up to 12 X 12 by the end of year 4 now. If your child does not know their tables please ask them to recite a whole table each night until they know them. Your child will have opportunities to work as a whole class, in a small group, in pairs or individually. Speed is essential in mental maths.

Science: this term we are investigating electricity.

P.E:

P.E lessons this term will be games and dance. We are hoping to enter a team in the Tag Rugby Festival, the Cross Country event and enter a team in a new small school's football league this

term also. We continue to be supported by qualified members of staff from the School Sports Partnership Brian Honour and the Martin Gray Academy.

Music: we are fortunate to be able to continue to work with Sofia from the Sage and Jamie Blackwood. Work in music includes singing and playing a range of percussion instruments.

Computing: children will be using computers linked to science and electricity this half term.

RE: we start the year with a topic called Ourselves. This will be followed by Passover and Judaism. Following this, topics are called Life Choices and Hope.

History/Geography/Art and Design/ Design and Technology – the overall topic for this term is Ancient Greece.

If you require any further information about class 3 please do not hesitate to get in touch with me. I look forward to your continued support and encouragement.

Lynda Doyle