St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School
Year 3 Autumn Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the year and a very special welcome to the Year 3 children who have now entered Key Stage 2. The children have made a fantastic start and are already settling into the routines of Key Stage 2 very well. They are especially enthusiastic and excited about the changes and experiences that this year will bring!

I am really looking forward to meeting and getting to know you all during the course of the year. It is really important for your child that there is a solid partnership between home and school. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me - I will be happy to answer any questions you may have. You can email me on year3@stcuthbertsk.org and I will usually be available for a quick chat on the yard once the children have been dismissed. For longer discussions, either email me or contact the office to schedule a meeting after school.



English

Our English work this term will focus on narrative and non-fiction information writing and will include work on:

- Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (GPS)
- Recounts
- Non-chronological Reports

Where possible, English work will be linked to our other main topic this term, which is 'David Copperfield.' Children will also be continuing to develop knowledge and skills in speaking and listening, spelling and spelling rules, reading comprehension and how to respond to different texts.



David Copperfield

We have begun the Autumn term with a focus on the classic Charles Dickens' story of 'David Copperfield' which the children are thoroughly enjoying.

Reading

The Year 3 children will be given a set day on which they should change their home reading books. Children will also have the opportunity to visit our school library regularly. Please encourage your child to read every night and when possible, listen to them read and add a comment in their reading record book.

Maths



The children will work on activities to develop their mathematical knowledge and understanding in 4 key areas:

- Number and Place Value
- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Problem-solving

The Year 3 children will continue to practise their times tables and will begin by revising the 2,5 and 10 tables learnt in Year 2.

Science

This term Year 3 will be studying the topics: 'Animals: including humans' and 'Light'. They will use investigative skills throughout both Science topics.



Religious Education

Our topics this term will be: 'Creation and Covenant' and 'Prophecy and Promise.'

Geography

The topic for Year 3 is 'Where I Live' and looks at different types of settlements and our local area as well as areas further afield. We will also link this work to our local History topic: Kenton Quarry.

Art

The topic for this term is 'Drawing' and focusses on different drawing techniques and a study of an artist.

Music

Year 3 will be learning to play the recorder in their music lessons this half term. They will be working on playing a range of tunes and will have a great time!

French

Madame Dryden will be teaching Year 3 French this half term. I can't wait to hear the children's accents!

Apple's Friends

Apple the hamster was first introduced to the children in Year 2 whilst they were learning about Zippy and friends. In Year 3, the children will learn about friendships and will develop social skills and how to communicate their feelings.

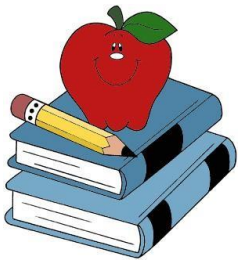
Physical Education

PE will be on a **Wednesday** this half term.

Please ensure that children come to school in their complete kit. Each item must be clearly labelled with your child's name. Some PE sessions may take place outside so please consider the weather when deciding to wear shorts/joggers and jumpers. Please ensure that your child has plain, **unbranded** black or navy tracksuit bottoms, a plain white t-shirt/polo shirt and trainers to wear for outside sessions along with their school jumper. No jewellery should be worn. If earrings need to stay in, families must provide their child with plasters.

Homework

St Cuthbert's is continuing the current homework policy and asks families to focus on spellings, times tables and reading each week. These are really important skills and we ask that families support the children as much as possible.



- Spellings will be set and tested in line with the units from our 'Spelling Shed' scheme. **Spelling tests** will take place on a **Tuesday.**
- **Times tables** will be tested each week on a **Tuesday.** To begin with, we will revise the 2, 5- and 10-times tables.
- Reading books – please listen to your child read and complete the reading record book as regularly as possible. It is vitally important to your child's learning that they read every day and that when possible, they are heard by an adult. This does not always need to be your child's reading book – personal books can be included too. Please comment in your child's reading record to enable us to monitor their progress. At least one comment should be recorded, signed and dated each week but please feel free to add more if you would like to. Reading record books will be checked in school every **Tuesday** so that we can monitor who is reading at home. If children are struggling to complete homework, they will be given the opportunity to do this at breaktime.

Reading Eggspress
Children will continue with Reading Eggs in Year 3.

Spelling Shed and TTRS
Children will receive logins and passwords for Spelling Shed where they can practise their weekly spellings and Times Table Rock Stars where they can play games and test their times tables.

Packed Lunches – To promote a healthy lifestyle and maintain the school's Healthy Schools Accreditation, we would love to see children's packed lunches being as healthy as they can be! We would ask that fizzy drinks, energy drinks, sweets and chocolate are excluded from lunch boxes. We would also like to remind parents that due to allergies, nut products are not allowed to be brought into school. We have put lots of ideas on the school website about ideas for a healthy packed lunch if anyone is stuck for any inspiration!

School Uniform - Please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform as detailed on our school website. Please note, school uniform is black shoes or trainers and the PE kit is plain black or dark blue school shorts or jogging bottoms/leggings. Any children coming to school in non-uniform items will be provided with plain items we now hold in school. These will be washed and cleaned after every use.

After School Club
For further details, please contact the school office.

Staff Team in Year 3
As well as myself, Miss Baillie will also be working with the children in Year 3 enabling a varied and engaging curriculum.

We are very much looking forward to this term and working with you and your child. If you have any questions, then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks and best wishes,

Mrs Hacking

Year 3 Staff

year3@stcuthbertsk.org