



Welcome to Year 3

AN OVERVIEW OF WHAT TO EXPECT IN YOUR CHILD'S CLASS THIS YEAR

Our School Values

At **F**riars, individual wellbeing comes first.
We believe in **R**especting
and **I**ncluding everyone.
We **A**im high and show
Resilience in our learning.
Our aim is to **S**ucceed in everything we do!



The Year 3 Team

- ▶ Class teachers – Miss Baylis (3B), Mrs. Knight and Mrs. Astrella (3KA)
- ▶ Learning Support Assistants – Mrs. O'Donovan, Mrs. Lambert and Mrs. Goddard (3B) Miss Stuart (3KA)
- ▶ Other adults in the year group – Ms. Nickols, Miss Johnson

Our topics this year

- ▶ **Autumn 1 – Iron Man** – *English* – characters & settings, narrative, speech and dialogue, newspaper reports *Art* - sketching, silhouettes, *Science* – Forces and magnets, *History* – Stone Age, Cave paintings
- ▶ **Autumn 2 – Healthy Me** – *English* – diary and letter writing, instructions, *PSHE* - healthy food choices, *Science* – animals and humans (including nutrition) *DT* – Making and designing medicine boxes (link to George's Marvellous Medicine)
- ▶ **Spring 1 – Shake, Rattle & Roll** – *English* – Poetry and non-fiction writing based on earthquakes and volcanoes, (*Geography*) *Science* – rocks and layers of the earth.
- ▶ **Spring 2 – Romans** – *English* - 'Escape from Pompeii' story, newspaper reports on Chilean earthquake, Boudicca diary writing, *History* – Romans, *Art* – Roman mosaics, *Science* - *Light*
- ▶ **Summer 1 – Dragons** – *English* – Poetry, narratives 'The Land of Roar' text, *Geography* – UK and Europe, capital cities, compare and contrast *Science* – Plants as living things *DT* – Mechanical levers
- ▶ **Summer 2 – Plants** – *English* – adventure stories, non-fiction writing (report/leaflet, *Geography* – map making and fieldwork, *Art* – Van Gogh, Monet, Rousseau, *Science* – Plant discovery, *DT* - Food/cooking unit

Reading

- ▶ Always a major school priority. Although we do not send home reading records in KS2, there is an expectation that children should be reading at home as much as possible. This could take place with parents/carers or with siblings. It would be great if you could get your children to read a range of genres, even if it is reading food packet labels or shopping lists!
- ▶ Reading flows through all learning and underpins everything – children will read with an adult every week. This may be individually with the class teacher or LSA, or during layered reading, or as part of a group. (within an English lesson)
- ▶ Layered reading - Our books are *The Iron Man*, *George's Marvellous Medicine*, *The Land of Roar*. The whole class reads the same text. Children are matched to a partner and take turns to read to each other. The teacher oversees the class and listens to individual children during the session. The children complete comprehensions and are asked a variety of questions about what they have been reading. They are also told about the meanings of some of the trickier vocabulary they may come across in the text.
- ▶ Individual reading - During Early Morning Work, and during afternoons with the LSA.
- ▶ Comprehension lessons and skills are taught. There are regular dedicated English lessons for comprehension where we focus on a particular skill (recall questions, word definitions, 'why' questions, inference)

Writing

- ▶ Writing continues to be an important focus in the school as it was the area most affected by lockdowns and the effects of the pandemic.
- ▶ Genres covered – story writing, newspaper reports, diary entries, non-fiction reports, instructions, poetry
- ▶ Grammar covered – taught each day for example word classes, punctuation, sentence structure, tenses, prefixes and suffixes, paragraphs
- ▶ Spelling is taught as a separate lesson on a weekly basis
- ▶ English is taught often in a cross-curricular approach

Maths

- ▶ Introduced a new scheme called White Rose across the whole school. Year 3 used White Rose in Year 2 and are familiar with the way it is taught. There are colourful interactive presentations that provokes problem solving and extensive answers from the children. The children follow up their learning in interesting and colourful workbooks created by White Rose.
- ▶ Maths books are still used to consolidate their previous learning as well as to extend and challenge.
- ▶ Areas covered – Place value, four operations including formal written method, shape and measure, time, fractions.
- ▶ Encourage and take as many opportunities as you can to do real life maths, such as counting change in the shops, weighing and measuring ingredients to make cakes and telling the time – such as dinner will be at half past 5, there is 10 minutes until we leave for school.
- ▶ Problem solving importance - regular lessons which focus on problem solving, giving children a chance to apply their maths knowledge in real contexts. White Rose enables the children to really embed their problem solving skills too.
- ▶ Times tables importance – start with recall of 2,5 and 10 (revision from year 2. Then we move onto 3, 4, 6 and 8 times tables. It is really important to recall the associated division facts for each times table, which are tested on a weekly basis on a Friday

RSE

- ▶ Towards the end of spring term the children will learn about safe relationships.
- ▶ This will specifically look at the scientific names of their personal and private body parts and how they can keep themselves safe.
- ▶ During this input there will be no sexualised vocabulary or pictures used.

Year Three Computing

- ▶ Our Computing lessons are on Wednesday afternoons taught by Mrs. Pinckney and supported with the class LSA's and technical support from Mr. Browning.
- ▶ This year computing lessons include not only the development of a particular skill but will also focus on keeping ourselves safe when using the internet and online apps with weekly starters, discussions or strategies being shared.
- ▶ Look at the newsletter weekly for top tips which have been discussed in lessons and links to useful websites for information.
- ▶ **Autumn 1-** Focus on computing systems and networks - Thinking about how computers connect with different devices in both the home, school and around us.
- ▶ **Autumn 2-** Animations - Look at a variety of animations, plan an animation, create, review and evaluate their own animations to discuss improvements.
- ▶ **Spring 1-** Programming- Sequences in Music- Exploring a new programming environment, create a sequence and listen to improve a sequence of notes.
- ▶ **Spring 2-** Desktop Publishing - To look at different publications to recognize how text and images convey information. Design and create a poster for a real life context on a Microsoft program.
- ▶ **Summer 1-** Data and Information - Looking Branching Databases- create questions, identifying different groups and categories and then sort information.
- ▶ **Summer 2-** Programming - To plan, design and create a maze based challenge. Identify and fix bugs in different programs.

This year a class will be awarded “Computer Class of the Week!” and receive a trophy to display in their classroom for the week.

Homework

- ▶ Homework books will be sent home weekly, with a maths and English focus.
- ▶ Spellings will be sent out half termly, so the children have all the spellings being taught
- ▶ Homework is given out on a Friday and will be collected in to be marked on a Wednesday the following week.

How you can support at home

- ▶ Regular reading, sharing books together and discussing the text, asking comprehension questions. Practise spellings and times tables throughout the week as much as possible. Doesn't necessarily have to be with parents or guardians, but can be with siblings or other adults.
- ▶ The children could access various educational websites at home. Some of the apps or websites we use in school are - Hit the Button, Times tables songs on you tube, Top Marks, BBC Bitesize and TT Rockstars

Educational Visits and Visitors

- ▶ Colchester Castle will be our main visit later in the spring term linked to our Romans learning. We will travel by coach. The children will experience a vast amount of history around the castle, Roman life and complete some mini activities on the day.
- ▶ In the summer term, there will be a PSHE speaker from the RNLI to come in to talk about safety both on the beach and within the sea
- ▶ There will be a planned geography fieldwork trip to East Beach in the summer term. The children will visit the beach and survey the surrounding areas. We will discuss what improvements they could make to the area, to make it even better than it already is.
- ▶ We will have RE speakers in also to talk about different faiths within the local area.

Assemblies

- ▶ Take place every day except Thursday, this is when the whole school complete a layered reading session.
- ▶ Senior Leadership assembly on Monday to start the week and sometimes this includes updates and information regarding OPAL.
- ▶ Moral stories throughout the week, which is delivered by all KS2 teachers in turn.
- ▶ Singing assembly happens on a Wednesday and is usually led by Ms Taylor-Brown.
- ▶ Celebration assembly every Friday. You can always see the website for photos of all of our certificate recipients.
- ▶ Some assemblies may be themed around particular world religious festivals or special days such as World Book Day

Uniform and Equipment

- ▶ Black or grey trousers or shorts
- ▶ Summer dress, pinafore or black or grey school skirt
- ▶ White or purple short-sleeved polo shirt
- ▶ Purple cardigan, jumper or gilet
- ▶ Black or white socks or black tights
- ▶ Smart, plain black footwear with no logos
- ▶ Clean, Brushed hair – tied back longer hair
- ▶ No bracelets, necklaces or rings worn
- ▶ Book bag
- ▶ Water bottle
- ▶ Hat



All property must be clearly labelled

PE

- ▶ Our PE day is on Wednesday
- ▶ Children can wear PE kit to school on this day
- ▶ The correct PE kit includes; black shorts, purple/white round-necked t-shirt, plimsolls or trainers
- ▶ Tracksuits may be worn during colder months
- ▶ Following Local Authority health and safety advice - No earrings are allowed to be worn and we are no longer allowed to tape them. We are also not allowed to remove earrings for the children.
- ▶ Additional active sessions (Friars 15) during the week which does not require kit – stretching, dance, yoga or some kind of movement



Outdoor Learning

- ▶ Afternoons of one week every term
- ▶ End of the Autumn term – 3KA – 9th October, the following week is 3B – 16th October
- ▶ The children will be working with Mr. Brady, alongside their teachers and LSAs.
- ▶ Children can wear old joggers, shorts or trousers to school for this week, but they must still wear their uniform tops.
- ▶ Happens whatever the weather, so please ensure children have a waterproof jacket and wellies if needed.



Welcoming you into school

- ▶ Autumn 2: Learning Conversation Evenings - Wednesday 15th/Thursday 16th November
- ▶ Spring 1: Book Look – an opportunity for you to visit your child's classroom and enjoy seeing and reading their work (Date TBC)
- ▶ Spring 2: Learning Conversation Evenings - Wednesday 20th March/Thursday 21st March
- ▶ Summer 1: Open Evening (Date TBC)

- ▶ Plus our usual events such as Winter Wonderland – Sports Days – Family Picnic throughout the year

Keeping in touch

- ▶ Most information can be found on our weekly newsletter as we are mindful about sending out too many letters and emails.
- ▶ Specific events may also have a more detailed letter
- ▶ All letters and messages sent via ParentPay – very important to have access to this website
- ▶ School website also contains lots of essential information
- ▶ You can get in touch directly with us at year3@fps.porticoacademytrust.co.uk (checked everyday but please bear in mind we are teaching)



Questions

