

St Margaret's at Cliffe Primary School



Year 3



Terms 1&2 2017-2018

Mr Wong and Miss Allan

'Welcome back everyone!' Miss Allan and I are thrilled that already the children have settled really well into a slightly different routine and transition from Key Stage 1 to 2 has been smooth. As the children have probably told you, we have had a vote for a class name and group names and we have chosen 'Dragon's Den' for our class and coloured dragon names for each table! During lessons the children move around the groups all the time giving them an opportunity to work with different friends.

I would like to thank those of you who came to 'meet the teacher' afternoon it was great to see so many of you!

READING

A big thank you for all making sure the **book bags** and **P.E** bags came in on the first day. I like the children to bring in their book bags every day as we endeavour to hear the children read individually as much as possible. I would like to remind you that the children must have a school book bag to protect their books - just a ruck sack won't keep the books from being damaged. The children will also read more challenging texts in a group. During this time they will be taught different skills which will enable them to really enjoy the texts. Could I remind you to take a minute to write in the Home Contact book if you have read with your child. It's always nice to know what is going on at home and your help as to whether your child is coping with the text we have given them is always welcome.



HOME LEARNING

Home learning will be given out on a Friday to be handed in the following Wednesday. We will be starting by revising and learning new times tables as well as using place value in money. I will be encouraging the children to use 'times table wheels' so keep an eye out for them in their bags; children will be tested on their instant recall during maths starters as well as using them in their work. Maths, home learning, will also be related to an area practised in class. As I mentioned in my talk I would be grateful if you could encourage your children to practise their joined handwriting using the example sheet which will be sent home. Once their handwriting is neat and joined they will be able to write with a pen in class. English home learning will take the form of phonic/spelling investigations, reading comprehension or writing related to topic work.

OUR CLASS RULES

Show good listening and looking,

Be careful with words,

Always do your best,

Always be respectful to others.



As always we constantly review our rules to maintain a good working environment.

The children are having lunch at **12.30pm** instead of **12.00pm** as they did in Key Stage 1 so I recommend they bring a fruit snack to school to keep them going through the morning.

ENGLISH

I have high expectations of the children in my class and they always rise to these expectations. During term 1 & 2 we will be exploring a variety of stories from different authors including Roald Dahl. We will be looking at stories by the same author, Instructions and Explanations and writing Christmas letters. The children will also 'have a go' at writing a variety of poetry including Humorous Poems.

HISTORY

We will be looking at the lives of people in Ancient Egypt as well as famous people from Ancient Egyptian times.

GEOGRAPHY

The children will be learning about their local area using maps, atlases and globes to locate places. They will be reading and creating their own maps and using grid references. Children will be investigating where their lunch comes from and exploring 'food miles'; please could you begin to collect food packaging ready for term 2.

HOW CAN YOU HELP!

As I mentioned at our meeting I am always grateful to you for working in partnership with us with reading and home learning. Thank you to those of you who expressed an interest and were keen to give your details to the office as parent helpers. We still have Golden Time on Fridays as a reward for good behaviour. I do have a wealth of games and puzzles but the children are welcome to bring in an item from home to play with during this period. No electronics or toy weapons please.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Our trip to the The East Kent Ploughing Match has been booked, please keep an eye out for the letter!

Things to remember:

P.E on Monday and Fridays. No earrings please.

Please could all uniform be clearly labelled. Children find it upsetting when they cannot identify and find their belongings. We are going to have P.E outside as much as possible so could the children **have a tracksuit, warm top and socks** in school please and **sturdy trainers** on P.E days. Please could they also have plimsolls for P.E and games in the hall.

Can every child still bring a water bottle to school please, regardless of the weather and ensure that it has water in it and not juice or squash. Please don't put water bottles in the book bags though as they do leak at times.

No pencil cases please as we have plenty of equipment and they can save their own things for home learning.

As the weather becomes cooler we would recommend a coat be brought to school as we do like to take the children out at all times.

Thank you once again for your support and we look forward to working with you all this year. Please don't hesitate to let us know if you are worried about anything.

Mrs Wong and Miss Allan

