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Headteacher Lynn Harrison

Class 3 Newsletter

24/01/2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Class Three 2020! It was nice to meet most of you at parents evening this week, I look forward to catching up with those of you I didn't manage to see very shortly.

The children had a busy run up to the festive period, which I was lucky enough to share with them, establishing rapports and getting used to the daily routines of Class 3 in order to hit the ground running in Spring 2020, something that has proved successful.

In Class 3 you will now find myself and Mrs Lupton as staff members. You are welcome to talk to any one of us, about anything you wish, as we are operating our open-door policy, however, I also have my email that I am obtainable on too.

All routines and arrangements remain the same too:

- Homework will be given out on a Monday and needs to be done and handed in by Thursday morning;
- PE will usually be Tuesday, but children need their kit in all the time;
- I would like the children to read every night (including weekends). However, I appreciate this can be difficult, so a minimum of twice a week recorded in the reading records would be beneficial;
- Spellings will be given out on a Monday for a test on a Friday – it is much easier for the children if they do a little bit every night rather than cram on a Thursday night;
- Times tables will be tested on a Friday. This skill is also vitally important;
- The children will do French with Mrs Sweetman on a Monday afternoon;
- Rowan's football is on a Thursday.

The curriculum: This term's topic is called **Settling Saxons**. We have already had a very successful trip to Jarrow Hall to experience first-hand a settlement and working farm, where we all enjoyed learning about clothing and armour, even managing to re-enact a battle repelling the Vikings and Scots!! (Photos to follow very soon).

- RE: Hinduism;
- Science: Electricity and circuits;
- PSHE: 'Keeping Myself Safe';
- PE: Netball, football, hockey and the outdoor activities on residential;
- Geography and History: Settlements, life and times of Saxon living;
- Music: Music express- exploring rhythm;
- Art and DT: Saxon weaving and model buildings;

- Literacy: A wide range of texts, including the Story of Beowulf, retelling, recount, instructional writing, comprehension skills;
- Maths: Place value, numbers, addition and subtraction strategies, multiplication and division, problem solving, co-ordinates;

We will also, as usual, take part in Fairtrade Fortnight.

PE Kit: The children need a pair of football shoes and for PE (indoor/outdoor) a pair of shoes. The footwear for Rowan's will be used on the field and therefore cannot be used for PE in the hall or on the rubberised surface. They either need two pairs of trainers/pumps in school or one pair of trainers and one pair of boots. They would also benefit from a couple of pairs of socks so they don't need to wear the same wet ones. They are welcome to wear 'skins' too, but they cannot wear their ordinary school tights during a PE lesson.

Y6 SATs: On Monday 3rd February at 3.30pm, there will be a KS1 and KS2 SATs information meeting for the parents of Year 2 and 6 children. More information will follow nearer the time. There will be the opportunity to order revision materials and I will attempt to answer any questions you may have. It is the schools policy to keep the whole testing procedure as low key as possible, we hope to make the experience enjoyable!

Residential: There was a meeting in the first week to hear one of the residential leaders introduce the facilities for the forthcoming residential. The kit list and the room choice form will follow nearer the time. Please feel free to email any questions to me at the address below.

Reading: As discussed with most parents on the Parents Evening, we have introduced a year 6-4 buddy system as part of the morning routine, where Year 6 children will hear Year 4 read, and comment in the record. With parental support also hearing readers, we will endeavour to hear as many children as we can.

Pencil Cases: All stationary children require for their daily tasks is provided by school. We are a large class with space at a premium, and currently are having to accommodate a large box of pencil cases that we don't need. These items have caused issues recently and with that in mind I would like to phase these out by February half term. I will send all pencil cases and equipment home as we break up for the half term break.

Spares, wellies and bottles: Thank you to all parents for providing children with the above items, we have now 100% of children fully equipped. Just a quick note that some wellies are getting a little old, as we discovered on the recent Saxon trip where it rained continuously and we waded through puddles, only to find not all were waterproof!!

Finally, my email address is mark.harrison@irthingtonvillage.cumbria.sch.uk
Or alternatively if there is anything you wish to let me know about please stay in touch. I check my emails daily.

Yours sincerely,
Mr Mark Harrison