



Archbishop Runcie Church of England (VA) First School

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Headteacher: Mrs KE Massey

Welcome to Year 3 Newsletter!

6th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful summer. I am feeling excited to get back in the classroom with the amazing new Year 3 children!

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the Welcome Meeting last term to meet me and hear about expectations for the year. Please find attached a copy of the PowerPoint that was shared.

Staffing

This year, Mrs Norman and Mrs Conner will be working in our class, alongside me.

Mrs Norman is our Medicines Lead and First Aider for children in Year 3 and 4. If your child requires medicine during school, please contact her via email

lynne.norman@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk

You will need to meet with her before school begins to ensure medication forms are completed, please.

Changes from Year 3

Now that your child is in Year 3, you will notice that Spanish is now on the curriculum. School dinners are no longer provided free of charge but can still be purchased via ParentMail. Children can bring in a fruit or vegetable snack to school if they wish.

Drop off and collection

The KS2 door (adjacent to the field) will be open 8.35-8.45: Mrs Norman will greet the children on the door each morning to greet the children. School finishes at 3.15pm and children should be collected from the classroom door. I will be available to talk to parents after all the children have been dismissed.

Learning

Maths: We will look at place value first this term, moving onto addition and subtraction after that. We will also have daily times tables sessions. Children should already know their 2, 5, 10 and 3 x tables and this year we will learn 4, 6 and 8 x tables.

English: Our first class novel is *The Great Chocoplot*. We will learn about descriptive sentences and narratives. In grammar, we will learn about subordinate clauses and adverbs.

Geography: This term, our first Geography topic is Modern Egypt. You can help your child at home by looking the country up in an atlas, maybe mention that Liverpool's Salah comes from Egypt!

Science: We will be learning about rocks and soils this term. You could look for and identify different rock types in the local area or there are lots of displays of rocks and fossils locally.

RE: We will be studying Sikhs and their faith. We are planning a visit to the Sikh Gurdwara later in the term. If there are any parents or carers who are practicing Sikhs, we would love to hear from you!

Spanish: We will start this new subject with greetings! If you have been to Spain with your children, you could remind them about the culture, food and language that they have already experienced.

PSHE: We will cover families and relationships, talking about the importance of these in our lives.

Music: We will begin drumming again every Monday afternoon, starting next week. Children in Years 3 & 4 are also invited to join Gosforth Voices Choir Gosforth Voices is based at Grange First School on Wednesday 3:45-4:45pm and children can sign up using the link below.

<https://musicpartnershipnorthnewcastle.co.uk/gosforth-voices>

A member of staff from ARFS will be available to walk the children to choir each week but children must be collected from Grange First School.

There are also guitar and violin lessons beginning after school to those who have signed up already.

PE: PE will be taught on a Tuesday afternoon. Please could all children come to school in their PE kit on this day. It would be very helpful if any child with long hair (boys as well as girls) has their hair tied up on this day and that children only wear lace up shoes if they can fasten them themselves. Please note that children will not be able to take part in PE lessons if they are wearing jewellery of any kind (including stud earrings).

This term, we will be learning about tag rugby, with a focus on avoiding defenders, throwing and catching. We will also be doing the daily mile so please try and make school shoes suitable. Children are able to wear black trainers for school (without colourful designs or logos).

Each half term, I will send home a topic web so you know what your child is learning at school. I will also post on X so you can see what we are up to each week.

Jewellery

Please can I ask that children **do not wear any jewellery** on any day for school. Thank you. Children wearing jewellery will be asked to remove it and bring it home. We cannot be held responsible if it goes missing.

Snacks and water

All children should bring a named water bottle each day, please. This will be taken home each evening to wash in preparation for the next day. In Years 3 & 4, children can bring in a fruit or vegetable snack to school.

Lunches

In Nursery, Year 3 and 4 children must pay for a school meal via ParentMail or you can send a packed lunch. In Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 school lunches are provided free of charge.

Reading

Reading is the most important skill children will learn at first school. We will continue to use book bags to bring books in and out of school.

Children will take a short comprehension quiz in their first week which will help them pick the right level of book from the library. As ever, we strongly encourage daily reading at home with an adult. Please write a short comment in their Reading Record every night. Thank you.

Books must be returned before another is issued. Staff will listen to children read at least once a fortnight, often more.

Other belongings needed

Please label all items, such as coats and put all other items in a draw string bag (e.g. gloves, hats: also labelled please).

Visits & Visitors

This year visits out of school and visitors into school will be linked to our learning each term. In Year 3, this is focused around the local area, as well as surrounding counties. For example, the Geography trip will visit where the River Tyne becomes one and a walk along the river bank in the summer term. Year 3 will also have the opportunity to have a sleepover at school next summer.

	Area/Learning	Date	Visits
Autumn Term	Personal Development	17 Dec 2024 (morning)	Tyne Theatre Pantomime
	History - Egypt	TBC	Durham Oriental Museum
	RE - Sihks	TBC	Gurdwara

If you have a particular knowledge of any of our curriculum areas, we would welcome your expertise!

Homework

Homework stickers will be given out every Thursday and will be stuck in the children's reading records, starting next week. These will consist of an English and Maths IXL objective that should be completed by the following Tuesday, please. These objectives will consolidate the learning that has taken place in class during the week.

Also, spellings will be sent home on a Thursday in your child's spelling book. This follows the 'Look – Say – Cover – Write – Check' method that will be explicitly taught in school to aid children in learning their spellings, which will inevitably support their writing. Spelling quizzes will also take place every Thursday and will consist of 5 words that match a spelling pattern and 3 common exception words.

In addition, please challenge your child to practice times tables via the Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) app. This is an excellent way to improve knowledge and memory.

All logins can be found inside Reading Records. These may be updated during the year.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to email me at the below address.

I am really looking forward to the year ahead and seeing the children progress.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Hamlen

steven.hamlen@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk

Autumn Term Dates

Staff training day	Friday 25 th October
Quiz night (Adults only)	Friday 15 th November
Year 3/4 nativity performance (afternoon)	Wednesday 11 th December
Year 3/4 nativity performance (evening)	Thursday 12 th December
Year 3/4 nativity performance (morning)	Friday 13 th December

Please also check the newsletter for new, upcoming dates or any changes. Thank you.

Be courageous; be strong.

Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14