Friday 8th September

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Year 3 – Australia Class

Welcome back after the summer holidays. We would like to take this opportunity to outline the structure of Year 3 and what the children will be learning this year.

Year 3 Team
Miss Jones - Class Teacher
Miss Peel - Learning Support Assistant
Mrs Green 1-1 Learning Support Assistant
Ms Hill - (SHLTA) covering class on Wednesday (pm)

Please find attached a copy of our Autumn Term timetable. It outlines core and foundation subject coverage. Please note P.E times (Tues afternoon and swimming on Weds). Children need to remember P.E kits on these days.

Themed Work
Autumn 1: The Romans (History)
Autumn 2: The Egyptians (History)
Spring 1: India (Geography)
Spring 2: European Art and Artists (Art/History)
Summer 1: Edible Garden (Science/D.T.)
Summer 2: Modern Europe (Geography)

Helping your child
Reading
Children should bring their book and reading journal into school every day in a book bag or drawstring bag that can fit into their drawer. It is important that their book and reading journal are in school each day so that we can record when we have heard them read.

At Fairfield, children are heard reading in small guided groups (weekly). Children will also be heard reading, at times, on a 1 to 1 basis by additional support adults with their individual home reading book. Once you child has finished their book, they will be asked to follow up the reading of their individual book with an activity. Please support your child in completing these when set.
We recognise that children read at different speeds and because of this we have a system in place whereby the children can change their individual reading books as often as they like through placing their reading book and diary in the change tray. When children do this, Miss Peel or Mrs Green will endeavour to change their reading book on that day.

Even if your child decodes words well and reads fluently, it is still important that they read as often as possible in order to develop their comprehension skills and widen their knowledge of sentence structure and vocabulary, which will in turn help them to develop their writing skills.

We are introducing a new Reading Olympics at Fairfield this year. Children will have a reading journal which needs to be signed and dated each time your child reads with you at home. We expect children to read at home with an adult three times a week. This is linked to in-school rewards and displays. Please make sure you keep reading regularly and signing the book.

**Homework**

All primary schools are expected to set homework for pupils. We believe that these should be manageable tasks that reinforce and extend the learning in school, and which allow parents and children to work together in an enjoyable and positive way. Pupils are expected to complete homework and hand it in on time. If there are particular difficulties, please don’t hesitate to catch one of the Year 3 Team and let them know. Children who are unable to complete their homework on time will complete it in school during Thursday lunch time.

The Homework books will be given out on a Friday and are due back in the following Wednesday. There will also be a spelling test based around a given rule every Friday.

**Trips**

As well as the Pantomime trip in December, the year 3 children will also be attending a trip to New Walk Museum to assist with their learning of the Egyptians. There will also be a trip in the summer term with the children from Year 5. Please keep an eye out for the letters coming home.

**Clubs open to Year 3**

There will be a variety of clubs open to Year 3 this year. Tag rugby will continue this year in the spring Term, ready for the Tag rugby Tournament in April. Quick Sticks is also being introduced this year to the year 3/4 children. Please keep an eye out for letters coming home.

**E-Safety**
Many families now have computers at home and allow children to access the Internet to help with learning activities. Whilst the Internet is a fantastic resource and children can benefit greatly, please ensure that they are properly supervised or that your computer is adequately protected with filters to prevent children from accessing inappropriate material. At school we take this very seriously. Children will be taught about staying safe on-line and to be aware that not all websites are reliable sources. For further advice and guidance on this, please refer to CEOP www.ceop.police.uk/(Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre).

There is an E-Safety parent meeting at school on Thursday 22nd February 2018, 3.30pm - 4.30pm providing advice and support.

**Equipment**
Please ensure that your child wears the correct school uniform and that all items are named clearly (See school uniform policy available in the Office). We have a lost property box in our hall. If your child loses an item please check in that box first of all.
The school provides all equipment that the children require in their lessons so it is not necessary for children to bring in their own stationery.
Please remember to send your children in with a named water bottle every day.

**P.E**
Please follow the School uniform policy and ensure all P.E. kit is named. It would be helpful if you could provide socks for girls who wear tights to school. Kit should be kept in a drawstring bag on cloakroom pegs. Please do not have large rucksacks for kit as they will not fit on the pegs. For Health and Safety reasons, earrings should not be worn. It would be helpful for pupils not to wear earrings on the P.E days or are capable of removing earrings prior to the start of a lesson. Please ensure that your child has both an indoor and an outdoor kit with them, including plimsolls.
In Year 3, we currently do P.E on a Tuesday afternoon and swimming on a Wednesday morning.

**Important dates for your diary**
Please keep an eye out for letters in case any of these dates change.

- Thursday 5th October - Harvest assembly
- Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th October - Parents evenings
- Thursday 12th October - School Photos
Week commencing 16th October - Half term

Monday 27th November - Year 3 Assembly performance to parents
Wednesday 29th November - Final swimming session for Year 3

Friday 1st December - Decorations morning
Monday 18th December - De-Montfort Hall Christmas Pantomime
Wednesday 20th December - School Disco
Wednesday 20th December - Last day of Autumn term/ Toy day

Tuesday 9th January - First day of Spring term

**Home/School Agreement, Data Information and Parental Consent form**

There will be a home school agreement, data information and parental consent form that we would like all parents/carers to complete and return back to school at your earliest convenience. Please remember to notify the office of any changes to your personal contact details as and when these arise.

We hope this has been helpful. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Miss Jones, Miss Peel and Mrs Green