

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 3!

We have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know your children and hope their transition to Amherst is as smooth as possible. This letter is intended to answer some of the questions you may have at this stage of term. We will be able to expand on this information at the **'Meet the Teacher' evening at 4pm on Tuesday 15th September**.

Intended learning with other key messages will be sent out as an email every Friday – please do read this carefully and share with your child should you wish.

Dates for your diary

Please refer to our newsletter, weekly sent on Fridays, for important dates regarding trips, parent consultations, workshops, open afternoons and much more.

Topics

This list is not definitive but it gives you a broad outline of the areas being addressed this term. A full curriculum overview of the year can be found on the Year 3 section of the Amherst School website.

- **English:**
 - *Eliot Jones Midnight Super Hero (Anne Cottringer)*
 - *Matilda (Roald Dahl)*
 - *Stone Giant and the Water Goblin (Pie Corbett)*
 - *Whole-School Text (TBC)*
 - *Adventure at Sandy Cove (Pie Corbett)*
- **Maths:** Place Value, Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division
- **Science:** Rocks
- **Geography:** Our Local Area
- **Computing:** Connecting computers and basic computer skills

Homework

Maths: Your child will be given a Mental Arithmetic (MA) book and we would like them to complete one page each week. This will be based on an in-class assessment to help decide the correct book for your child. Your child should be able to complete the majority of it independently but we are grateful of any parental support. If your child has required a lot of support, please let us know by starring the questions (*) or writing a short note on the page. It is important that children complete all corrections from previous tests before moving on to the next one. The purpose of MA books is to support children in their knowledge of the language of maths and understanding questions independently as well as the calculations used to solve them.

Times Tables: Children should practise times tables (and related division facts) regularly at home. We highly recommend that children spend time learning their times tables to reinforce school work. Children should begin by learning 2, 5 and 10s, then move on to 3, 4 and 8s before finally practising 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12s. All children will be given a login for Times Tables Rock stars to be able to use our school subscription at home. We will be running a parent workshop based on times tables in November.

Spelling: Your child will bring home an orange spelling homework book each Friday with a list of words inside. We will test your child on these spellings the following Wednesday in the back of their orange book. These words will either link to the spelling rules we have been learning about in school, high frequency words, topic words or words from the statutory list. Your child may choose to use a variety of techniques to learn the words such as 'Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check', mnemonics, rainbow writing etc and must hand in their book with evidence of practice by Wednesday. Examples of the type of practice they might complete can be found in their

orange homework books. We will provide challenge words for those children who already know most of the spellings.

Reading: Your child will choose a book from our banded reading scheme or a chapter book from our book corner. Your child should be encouraged to read for at least fifteen minutes daily, independently or with an adult. Even if they are able to read independently, we would really appreciate you continuing to hear them read to support them with increasing fluency, expression and comprehension. The children must record the book title and the pages read in their planners. Planners must be handed in on a **Friday** and should be in school every day. Please sign your child's planner each week before it is checked at school to indicate that you have heard them read. Recommended reading lists are available on the school website. They should also bring their planner in every day to help improve their independence and for recording reading completed at school with an adult.

	Handed out	Due in by
MA book	Friday	Wednesday
Spelling	Friday	Wednesday
Planners	Friday	Friday

Games and PE

In Term 1, yoga lessons will take place on a **Thursday for all classes** and handball lessons will be on a **Wednesday for all classes**. Any changes to these days during the term will be outlined in the intended learning sheet which is sent out each Friday by email.

The Year 3 staff are very much looking forward to a busy and productive year with your children.

Please do contact us via the office or speak to us at the school gate at the end of the day if you have any concerns or questions at any point.

Many thanks for your support,

Miss Foinette

Mrs Barratt

Mrs Kelly

Mr Stevens