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9.1.16

Dear Year Three Parents,

Welcome back! We hope that you have had a lovely break and feel well rested.

Curriculum:

Topic – Rivers and Mountains

English- Instructions; Reports; Plays and Dialogue; Performance Poems

Maths- Number and place value; Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division, Measures, Fractions, Geometry

RE – Sacred Places; Celebrations

Science- Animals including Humans

PE – Commando Joe; CCFC Primary Stars

Home School Journal:

Children in Year 3 will continue to have a Home School Journal that is to be taken home daily and returned the next day. This should be used as a reading record for you to sign when your child has read at home. There is also a space for you to write any comments or questions you may have for us, or for staff to communicate with you about your child. The journal also contains a timetable for the Spring Term, detailing what lessons will be taught daily.

Homework:

Children in Year 3 will receive two pieces of homework each week - one Maths and one English – as well as spellings to learn. Homework will be sent home in homework books on Thursday each week, to be given back in on the following Monday. Children are also expected to read for at least 20 minutes daily, as part of their homework.

As part of their Topic learning, we are also asking children to produce an Individual Learning Project based on one river and one mountain (of their choice). This will be collected at the end of the Spring term.

Playtime Fruit and Snacks:

In Key Stage 2 we are keen that children think carefully about making healthy choices for their playtime snacks. Please can children in Key Stage 2 bring in a fruit snack for playtimes rather than eating alternative snacks. Children should also remember to bring in a **water** bottle each day, which can be kept in the classroom. Please can all children make sure that they **name** their water bottle and remember to take their water bottles home at the end of the day, thank you. Please can we remind you that the children should only bring water in their water bottles, thank you.

We do ask that children **do not** bring nuts into school for break or lunchtime as we have a number of children who have nut allergies and as such, we are a nut free school.

Behaviour Expectations

Howes is a friendly and caring community and we are keen for our children to take on these and other values. Our house point system is effective at encouraging children to follow our golden rules and values. We would still very much like parents and carers to help us in reinforcing these rules and values with your children. Please can children be reminded that they should not bring toys into school, unless they have been given permission to do so.



To encourage pupils to make the right choices, we will be having 20 minutes of 'Golden Time' on a Friday afternoon. However, children who have broken the Howes "Golden Rules" during the week will miss some or all of the time from these sessions. Alternatively, in some circumstances, they may be asked to spend time reflecting on their behaviour during playtime.

Celebration Assemblies

Our Friday Celebration Assemblies will be continuing this term at 9.00am. Two children from each class will be nominated to receive an award for an aspect of outstanding work, achievement or behaviour. Parents will be invited to come into school for the assembly when their child is awarded their certificate. You will receive a letter on a Wednesday to inform you that your child has been nominated.

Parent Helpers:

At Howes we recognise the valuable contribution that all members of our community make to our school. We are always happy to welcome helpers into the classroom, so if you would like to volunteer to help in any way please do come and speak to Mrs Bolland. Here are some of the ways you may like to offer support:

- By joining the Friends of Howes team
- By hearing children read
- By supporting us on school trips
- By helping to organise Accelerated Reader or other resources

PE Kits and Uniform:

This term, Year 3 pupils will have PE on Monday morning and Tuesday afternoon. Please ensure that your child has a **clearly named** PE kit which should consist of a T-shirt, shorts and pumps; they should also bring suitable kit for outdoor lessons. PE kits should be brought into school in a named, drawstring bag please. If for any reason your child is unable to take part in PE lessons, we require a note of explanation. Please can you remind your children that earrings should be removed before PE lessons, thank you.

Please also ensure that your child attends school wearing the correct school uniform. For information about this please visit: <http://howesprimary.co.uk/Uniform/>

Children with long hair should also come to school with their hair tied back please.

Please can we remind you that children who wear earrings should only wear studs or sleepers, thank you.

Please can we remind you that nail varnish should not be worn at school, thank you.

Commando Joe:

Year 3 children will be continuing their PE sessions with Commando Joe on Monday mornings. These sessions will work on various aspects of physical exercise, including team games. As these sessions usually take place outside, your child will need to bring a PE kit that is suitable for all weather. Thank you.

Indoor/Outdoor Shoes:

At Howes we ask the children to wear a pair of outdoor shoes to and from school and whilst outside at playtime/lunchtime as this enables them to make the most of the school grounds during the wetter weather. Once they arrive at school, we ask the children to change into indoor shoes. Please could we ask you to encourage your child to bring a pair of named indoor shoes to keep at school, such as slippers, school shoes or pumps.

Timings of the day:

The start of a Howes school day in Year 3 begins with either an English or Maths lesson, starting straight after the register is taken. It is therefore very important that all pupils arrive promptly in order to start the school day at 8.55am. So that children are ready to come into school at this time, we would ask that all children are present on the playground at least 5 minutes before the school bell sounds.

The end of the school day for pupils in Key Stage 2 is at 3.20pm. Please note that this is 5 minutes later than Key Stage 1 pupils.

Absences and Medical Needs:

We would like to remind you that if your child is going to be absent, please telephone the school office at the number above as soon as possible. Any medication that your child requires during the day should be given to the Office, for a First Aider, in the original container and a medical administration consent form needs to be completed. Inhalers must be labelled and be handed in to your child's class teacher to be stored safely in the classroom.

Important Events for Year Three pupils:

Week Beginning 9 th January	School Clubs to Start This Week
19 th January	Year 3 and 4 trip to Coombe Abbey
27 th January	Young Voices
15 th February	Parent Consultations
20 th -26 th February	Half Term
2 nd March	World Book Day
27 th March	Year 3 and 4 Production Dress Rehearsal
28 th March	Year 3 and 4 Production
7 th April	End of Term

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Cairns, Miss McKinlay and Mrs Henshaw