



# WELCOME PACK FOR PARENTS

## Year 3



2023-2024

***“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.”—Proverbs 22:6***



## Welcome

As your child enters Year 3, they are embarking on their first year in Key Stage 2 (KS2) and with this comes an expectation for greater independence. The children are expected to take responsibility for their personal possessions, making sure their iPad is placed on charge at the end of each day, notifying their teacher if they have a notice in their diary and ordering their own lunches and tuck if necessary to name but a few. This is a year of amazing change and growth and we love nurturing children towards becoming independent learners.

## Meet the Staff

Mrs Aldridge  
Miss Ballone

## Our School Day

Children will enter school via the door by the KS1 playground.

8:35 – 8:45 Doors open

10:25 - 10.45 – Collective Worship

10:45 -11.00 – Break times

12:00 – 13.00 – Lunchtime

15:15 – End of school day

## Equipment and Uniform

### **P.E.**

P.E. kits must be worn on each P.E. day. These are: Monday and Tuesday

### **iPads**

In Year 3, the children are fortunate enough to be given an iPad each that is for school use only and will be used to support learning. This is kept at school. All learning will be recorded on the online platform called Showbie. Therefore, your child's books will look different than they have previously as there will be less adult marking. This is now done on Showbie and with great success as it offers both the adults and the children the opportunity to use verbal feedback which has been most effective. Children are able to access teacher feedback, easily understanding what is required by listening to their voice notes and teachers are able to listen to children's explanations as they walk us through their thought process in their learning. The use of emojis and written feedback are also used with great success.

### **Equipment**

Children are supplied with pencils, rulers, editing pens and any necessary equipment needed. Personal pencil cases or equipment are not permitted in Year 3

### **Book bags**

Book bags with home/school diaries and current reading book must be brought daily. If there are notes from parents/carers in home/school diaries, it is the responsibility of the children to relay this to their teacher. In KS2, diaries are checked on Mondays only.



## School Dinners / Tuck

### **Mid-morning snack**

Pupils can bring healthy snacks in from home to eat during morning break time. Hot tuck is also available during morning break time for a small fee but not compulsory.

Please make sure that these are paid for in advance on Parent Pay.

### **Water bottles**

Children are requested to bring a water bottle to school with them. This will be kept on or near their desk and must only be filled with water and not juice/cordial. These can be refilled as required.

### **School Dinners**

Children can choose to have a school dinner or bring a healthy packed lunch from home. The lunch menu must be chosen and paid for in advance via the school's 'Parent Pay' system.

Lunches can be ordered using Cypad (prior to or on the day). Lunchboxes must contain healthy choices.

## Timetable & Curriculum Overview

### **Our Day**

#### Timetable

8:35 – 8:45	8:55 – 9:25	9:25 – 10:25	10:25 – 10:45	11:00 – 12:00	1:15 – 3:15
Registration and morning task	Guided Reading	English	Collective Worship	Maths	Foundation Subjects

Curriculum content can be found on the school website

### **Our Year**

This year, we will be learning:

Autumn 1	Autumn2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Climate Zones	Eventful Egyptians	The Stone Age to the Iron Age	Vicious Volcanoes	Our Local Area	Ruling Romans

### **Swimming**

Year 3 children access swimming during the Spring term. From January, Year 3 will swim on a Friday. Kits must be brought to school including swimwear, a towel and a swimming cap. Please label where possible.

## Homework

Children will be set homework during term time on a bi-weekly basis. Homework books will go home on a Friday and are due back in on the dates given. The purpose of homework is to practise key skills which have been taught in school including arithmetic, grammar and punctuation or problem solving and reasoning tasks. Homework tasks should take



no more than one hour per week. Homework also helps to prepare children for the greater demands but in Year 3 we aim for the homework tasks to also encourage family time and learning together.

## Spelling

Each week, we will focus on a new spelling rule. Children will be set a new rule that is available to practise on Spelling Shed. The new rule will be available each Friday afternoon after the Spelling Shed test is taken for the previous rule on Friday morning at school. Any attempt to take the test at home will mean that the practise games disappear as the website assumes that once the test is taken, the rule is completed so please do not take the spelling test at home. This attempt will be deleted.

Children will be tested on these spellings each week.

## Reading

We ask that children read at least 4 times per week. Please sign your child's home/school link book to indicate when they have read. On a Monday morning, we will check your child's home/school diary and stamp the bottom of the page if they have read at least 4 times for the previous week. This gives you an opportunity to read on Saturday and Sunday also. This will then gain them a star on the 'Reading Road to success'. For every week your child reads at least four times, they will take another step along the road. When they eventually get to the bronze finish line, they will receive a certificate. Their next goal is then silver, where they will receive a special bookmark, and then Gold. This is the ultimate goal, where they receive a book token. It is imperative that your child accesses reading with an adult; choral reading, modelled reading and independent reading are all valuable but reading must be completed as it is the key to all areas of understanding – when we can read, the world is our oyster!

### Helpful question starters:

Which word tells you...?

How did...feel...?

Why did the author use...?

What might happen...?

How do you know...?

## Accelerated Reader

Children will choose books according to their reading zone. Each half term, children will take an Accelerated Star Reader Test which will determine which "zone" they should be choosing books from. All of the books in our class library are labelled in this way but children are also welcome to read their own books from home. You can check the "zone" of a book using the following website: [www.arbookfind.co.uk](http://www.arbookfind.co.uk). Children in Year 3 are expected to choose their own reading book suitable to their reading zones. We encourage the children freedom of choice. There is no set day to change books. When the book is complete, a quiz is taken and the book can be changed.

## Behaviour

We have a restorative approach towards behaviour which is underpinned by our school values: Love, Joy, Peace, Hope, Friendship, Compassion, Respect, Courage

Our behaviour policy can be found on the school website <https://forsbrookprimaryschool.co.uk/policies>



## How you can help

It is still important to hear your child read each week. Talk to them about what they are reading and encourage a set time each day to read at home so that it becomes part of their routine.

Check that your child has completed their homework each week and that they bring their book back to school by Wednesday. Talk to your child about what they are learning in school.

- **Sharing reading**

- 1. It's still good to share**

Hearing a story read to you is hugely important for developing reading skills, but it's also a relaxing routine which prepares children for a good night's sleep. Hearing a story read out loud also means that children can have access to books that may as yet be too challenging to read alone.

- 2. Open up the world of reading**

Share the variety of your reading with your child: books, magazines, websites, and apps, to show how reading can help you to follow your interests and to get involved. Help them to join blogs, online communities and clubs that link to their hobbies whether it's swimming, football, dance or music.

**Always check that any online communities children sign up to are safe and monitor their use of them.**

- **Developing fluency and understanding**

- 1. Encourage prediction**

When reading stories, good readers are always thinking ahead to start to work out what might happen next. You can help your child become better at this by asking key questions such as: *'I wonder if ... will happen? Who do you think will...?'*

- 2. Inferencing- reading between the lines**

When reading fictional texts, ask children questions that will encourage them to find evidence in the text to help support their answers. Looking for 'what's written between the lines' is an invaluable skill and one that is extremely important in the KS2 curriculum.

- 3. Summarise**

Once children have finished reading a paragraph, page, even a chapter- ask them to summarise with key details or as much detail as possible what has happened so far. Encourage children to try to recount information chronologically and remember details that may lead them to predict what may happen next.

- 4. Vocabulary**

Vocabulary is vast becoming a strong indicator of reading success. Inspire children to discover new and challenging words in texts, encourage them to use dictionaries (online if necessary) and thesauruses within the home. Don't be afraid to use 'big' words, it allows children to expand their vocabulary choice within written work too!

## Additional Information

### **School trips**

We aim to allow 3 experiences for our children each academic year. These excursions are subject to change due to availability. Information regarding each trip and costings are sent to you within due course.



Finally... We are always happy to listen to parents and encourage you to contact the class teacher right away if something is worrying you – even if it is just a niggle. Teachers will be available at the KS1 door each morning if possible or please write a comment in your child's school link diary as these are checked once a week by teachers and as and when your child brings a note to us. We ask parents to contact the class teacher first.

## School Contact Details

Office contact details: [admin@forsbrook.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@forsbrook.staffs.sch.uk)

Phone number: 01782 392577

Website link: [www.forsbrook.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.forsbrook.staffs.sch.uk)