



# Highwood Primary School

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Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential

Cathy Cox – Interim Headteacher

Tuesday 12 September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers of children in Year 3,

A very happy new school year to you all! We hope you all enjoyed the summer holidays and are looking forward to our new school year in a new key stage. This year the Year 3 team will made up of:

Cedar 3

Miss Lorna Allett



Maple 3

Miss Sarah Allen



Lower Key Stage 2 Teaching Assisstants

Mrs Libby Warren



Mrs Nicole Marshall



Mrs Eileen Traynor



Our Lower Key Stage 2 Phase Leader is Miss Nosheen Mazhar.



## Curriculum:

Throughout the year, we will be looking at a range of texts with the children, which will influence a range of activities across the curriculum. We will be starting with 'Stig of the Dump' by Clive King. In the Spring term, will we read 'The chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' by C. S. Lewis and in the Summer term our class reader will be an Anthology of Roman Myths and Legends.

Our topic this term is going to be history based. We are looking at **The Stone Age and The Iron Age** and tying in lots of other aspects of the curriculum such as art, literacy, science and ICT. The children will also have the opportunity to create their own clay pots in the style of this era.

In **Science**, we are going to be investigating rocks and soils; how we classify them and their uses. So get ready to support your little geologists! Our **PE** this term is on a Monday and Thursday and will be supported by Mr Liam Willimott. This half term the children will be developing their gymnastic skills; focusing on different balances and ways of travelling. In outdoor PE, the children will be improving their ball skills, including throwing, catching and controlling with their feet. Please be aware that your child needs their PE t-shirt, shorts for indoor PE, tracksuit bottoms for outdoor PE and trainers. Please make sure all PE kits are in school every day and that every item is labelled clearly with your child's name.

**Please note:** Year 3 teachers will have their PPA time on Monday afternoons where the children will be dismissed by one of our teaching assistants. This time will be covered by our specialist teachers: Mr Steve Johnson (ICT) and Mr Liam Willimott (PE).

**Trips:**

Autumn Term: Later this term, we will be having a Stone Age day in school. This will involve an external company leading workshops and activities all about the Stone Age and Iron Age. The children will also be invited to dress up as a Stone Age person, using their learning to influence their costumes. Cost: tbc

Spring Term: This term we are hoping to have an RE trip focussed on Islam. Details of this will be confirmed nearer the time.

Cost: tbc

Summer Term: Our topic this term will focus ancient Roman life and we are planning to go on a trip to Verulamium in St Albans to support this learning. Cost: tbc

**Home Learning:**

Each half term, the children will receive a new home learning grid in their book. This will consist of 8 activities linked to work we are covering in class as well as a free choice option that enables the children to complete an activity of their own choosing linked to something they have enjoyed in class. Children can choose to complete an activity of their own choice up to three times a half term as long as some form of evidence is in their book as we do love to see what they have been doing. Alongside this, we expect the children to read with an adult at least 3 times a week which needs to be recorded in their reading records. Spellings will also be sent out weekly on a Friday. These will then be tested the following Friday in class in the form of dictated sentences. Times tables will also be informally tested weekly through a series of challenges so it is important the children are reminded to practise these regularly at home. By the end of year 3, the children are expected to know the following tables fluently, in and out of order: 2s, 5s, 10s (from year 2) plus 3s, 4s and 8s.

**Book Look:**

Parents and carers are welcome to come in for our 'book look' on the first Monday of every month. The first one is on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017. This will be at the end of the school day where you will be able to look at your child's learning. Do come in as the children love to share their work with you!

**Snacks:**

Please ensure your child brings a healthy snack (fresh fruit or vegetables only) to eat at break time. The children should also have a water bottle in school every day.

**Assemblies:**

Our first class sharing assemblies will take place on the following dates:

Cedar: Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

Maple: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January

This term there will also be a shared Year 3 and 4 Harvest Celebration Assembly on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

These are lovely opportunities to share in your children's learning and we hope you can attend.

**Speaking to the teachers:**

As always, we have an 'open door' policy and if you wish to discuss anything, we are happy to arrange a convenient time to do so. We can be contacted via email using the following address:

admin@highwood.herts.sch.uk

Wishing you all the very best for this term.

The Year 3 team

Miss Lorna Allett and Miss Sarah Allen