



Morchard Bishop CE (V.A.) Primary School

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Head Teacher - Mr Chris Sargeant

Friday 13th September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Class 3 and we hope that you all had a super summer holiday. After a full week back in, the class has settled really well and we are all getting used to the new routine at the start of the day. We are making sure that they are filling up their water bottles, drinking often and generally being responsible for their belongings.

First of all, here is a timetable of who is teaching your child during the week:

	Before play	After play	After lunch 1	After lunch 2
Monday	Mrs Arnold	Mrs Jones	Mrs Arnold	
Tuesday	Mrs Jones	Mrs Arnold	Mrs Griffiths / Mr Sargeant	
Wednesday	Mrs Jones	Mrs Arnold	Mrs Arnold	
Thursday	Mrs Jones	Mrs Arnold	Mrs Griffiths	
Friday	Mrs Arnold	Mrs Jones	Mrs Griffiths	

As you will notice – and hopefully your child will have mentioned it – Mrs Jones is teaching them again and, as English subject leader, she will be in charge of teaching the English to the class. Mrs Arnold will continue to teach the class Mathematics and the respective teachers will set the homework for that subject.

In Class 3, we ask all children to have a Book Bag though we do not require it to be a school one. These are stored in boxes around the classroom during lesson times and they are expected to bring them in and take them home every day. Because there is not a lot of space in the boxes, please use something other than a rucksack. It is not a good idea to store fruit for morning snack in there, as the boxes are rather full and the food is likely to get squashed, but we have a cloakroom with named pegs where rucksacks or school bags can be stored and accessed at playtimes. This is also where the lunch boxes are kept.

In Class 3 we do peer massage. This is a brief, fully-clothed calming activity which is non-obligatory and has proved to be beneficial to the children's mental health. If you have any questions about this please speak to Mrs. Griffiths.

The Class topic this term is **Tree Power**, which continues on from our brief mini-topic back in May of this year. The focus will be science based – learning some of our indigenous trees, as well as seeing their vital importance for our planet. This is a huge area for learning and will consider food, fuel, medicine and touch on the ecological impact of deforestation. We are wanting to use the school grounds and local woods to help study trees and woodlands so could each child please have a pair of wellies that are kept in school this term.

English:

English lessons will be take place daily, focussing on grammar, spelling, handwriting and construction of different text types. The children will be given written homework that should last only 20 mins per week and spellings to be learnt on a weekly basis – often linked. In addition, each child needs to be reading several times a week to an adult at home, who then signs their Reading Diary to confirm this. They will also be heard in a group as part of the Guided Reading system, approximately once a week. They need to have their book-bag, containing their reading book, their reading diary and their homework diary in school **every day** please.

Maths: Maths lessons will also take place on a daily basis. Each child will have times tables that they are working on and in addition, they will have **My Maths** homework. I am aware that sometimes you may struggle to get access to the internet at home, so please come and speak to me if this is the case. I am sure we can work something out. If they do not complete it at home, they will be expected to spend a lunch time working on the laptops to complete it. In addition, the children will be given half-termly objective to work on, called Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRF's) to aid their mental skills.

Science: We will link this closely to our topic, and we will be studying flora and fauna **through 'Animals and their habitats'**.

French: Mrs Griffiths will teach the French, learning the vocabulary related to animals and food.

Music: Mrs Arnold is teaching the class music lessons and this term we are using the classroom instruments to read rhythms.

PE:

We are continuing to make use of the Saints South West Coach, who will be working on **Invasion Games**, specifically Tag Rugby skills. Your child will need **blue shorts, yellow t-shirt** for these Wednesday sessions, although once the weather deteriorates, long trousers and a warm jumper are accepted as we will try to continue outside, whatever the weather. If your child has studded boots, they are allowed to wear them for these outside lessons (although they are not obligatory) but we would also request that they have a **pair of trainers** in school just in case we have to have an indoor lesson in the hall. It is also sensible to have some spare socks and a sturdy bag to keep muddy boots in please.

On Friday afternoon, they will have **Dance** with Karina once again, and will require blue shorts and yellow t-shirts.

Please ensure EVERYTHING is named – including their bag, trainers and socks.

RE: Mrs Griffiths is again teaching **Understanding Christianity** focussing on 'What do Christians learn from the Creation Story?'. In Addition, we will be learning about the Hindu festival '**Navaratri**' and '**Anapaststi Day**' - a Buddhist festival.

The Big Question:

So what's so great about the world anyway?

ICT: Mr Sargeant will be teaching this and will initially focus on internet safety this term, moving on to spreadsheets and Excel.

Throughout all of this, we are challenging the children across the school to consider what makes a good learner and how we can improve our **Growth Mindset** to facilitate this. This all links in with the state of our mental health, which affects our ability to learn, so we are introducing ways to move forward when we are feeling overwhelmed. Please talk to us if you would like more information on these concepts.

We are always delighted to see what the children have been doing at home to assist their school learning, so if you are able take them to the library, or support their curiosity in any way, we would like to see the outcomes.

If you would be able and willing to come and help in any way with the class, whether it be hearing children read, helping with maths or working in more creative activities, please see one of us.