

Dear Parents,

I hope you have had a good summer. The children have made a super start to Year 3, quickly picking up the routines and enjoying the change in scenery. During the first week we did a lot of work on having a 'growth mindset' or what 'purple learning' will look like in Year 3. Today we launched this term's whole school topic of, 'Making a Splash'. With the focus being water, we will be studying the Wind in the Willows, doing work on rivers and the water cycle and in Art and DT studying the Impressionists and creating steam powered boats. We also have an exciting trip to the Henley River and Rowing museum to deepen understanding of the Wind in the Willows and river habitats. This trip will be on Thursday 21st September and more information will follow this week. The rest of the curriculum is outlined in more detail below.

The children will be doing Forest School on a Thursday afternoon this term and will need their usual Forest School kit. PE will be on Monday afternoons beginning next Monday due to our topic launch today and we will be doing hockey. If children have their own sticks and shin pads they are welcome to bring them in.

To begin with, the homework in Year 3 will be spelling practice. The words will be given out on a Monday and the children will have the week to practise the spellings for a quiz on the Friday. There are a couple of activities that the children need to complete including one which allows them to practise their cursive handwriting. Later in the term I will introduce a reading journal, but I will work with the children prior to sending it home on the activities they will be doing. They have a homework folder which any pieces of paper and books can be kept in and this should be brought in each Friday. As well as bringing in their pencil case each day, the children also need to have a reading book. Ideally this should be one that they are reading at home so I can monitor reading. I have attached a 'Reading at Home' document which includes some useful information and help.

I have set the children up on our 'Class Dojo'. It is a great resource which allows me to reward the children in class for positive learning behaviour and share information with you. The children have details about how you can sign up. Through downloading the app, you should be able to see some of the activities we have been covering in class using the 'Class Stories' function, see points the children gain and receive my messages.

This Thursday from 3-4pm there is an opportunity for you to drop into class, say hello and ask any questions you may have on the upcoming year. If at other times you would like to chat please arrange a meeting with me after school or get in touch via the office.

On Tuesday afternoons we will be doing our Art. During this time I am hoping to allow for some time for extra reading with some members of the class. If you have this afternoon free and feel like you would like to volunteer some time to help with reading, please speak to me.

Thank you and please don't hesitate to speak to me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Chandler

Making a Splash Year 3 Topic Table

Classroom Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River model on ceiling • Wind in the Willows display and vocabulary 	Educational Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Henley River and Rowing Museum • The Vineyard at Brightwell
Wow Factor Launch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk from hydrologist • Wind in the Willows animation • Topic art • Rivers and Rowing Museum Visit 	Key Texts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind in the Willows
Outcomes /Open Day Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water inspired art • Water cycle animation • “Pop pop” boats (steam powered) 	Homework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Journal • Spelling
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind in the Willows Setting and character descriptions • Journey of a rain drop • Story telling and paragraphing 	RE	N/A
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbers and Place Value to 1000 • Comparing numbers to 100 • Counting in 4, 8, 50 and 100 • Constructing and visualising 2d and 3d shapes 	Art / DT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River prints • ‘Reflections’ • French Impressionists • DT
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States of matter 	Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing Assembly • Wind in the Willows songs
Computing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPT World Rivers E-book • Water cycle animation 	PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hockey
		Forest School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridge building team work activities and investigations
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	French	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting to know you
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rivers – Features • Rivers of the world • Habitats • Uses of the river 	PSHE + SMSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water and the global dimension • Mrs Herron Time