

# STAPLEFORD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Bar Lane Stapleford Cambridge CB22 5BJ

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 3! It is so lovely to be back and we are really looking forward to working with your child this year and hope to get to know you too, so that we can work together to support your child's learning. From their first day in Year 3 we hope to create an atmosphere in which your child feels safe, happy and excited to learn. We aim to take the time to get to know your child's unique personality and to help them develop not just as learners but as individuals.

### Adults in Oak class

Mrs Webb will be teaching the class on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Mr Marchant will teach on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Beeton will be supporting the class every morning and Mrs Van Dok will also be working with the children throughout the week.

### Reading in Year 3

Reading is an important part of the school curriculum and at Stapleford we encourage all opportunities to enjoy books both at school and at home. Your child will be given a reading book to read in school and to bring home and share with you. These can be changed any day of the week during reading time, but children should ask a class adult and tell them about the book before changing it. We will also encourage them to read a book that they have chosen themselves. Please listen to your child read at home and we will encourage them to record reading activities in their reading record book so that we can talk to them about their reading experiences. House points and stickers will be awarded to children who are reading at home on a regular basis and there will be opportunities for them to write book reviews on books they have read and enjoyed so that they can be recommended to others.

### Homework

Children will be given a menu of homework to complete over the term. The menu is split into the subject areas of English, Maths, Science, Arts and History/Geography and has two options for each area. Every week your child should start by completing one piece of homework from each subject, so that over the term they have covered all five subjects (five pieces of homework in



total this half term). These should be completed in their homework books. We do not want any homework to be brought into school until the final week of each half term when we can share any art work and award lots of house points for their efforts.

### **Spelling**

This year we are continuing the approach to spellings that we introduced last year. The good news is, there will be **no spelling lists to learn at home!** We will be teaching spelling strategies, rules and offering investigative opportunities on a regular basis so the children can feel more confident and become *Brave Spellers!* We will test the children regularly in school in order to track their progress. We are very excited about this new approach as it focuses on what the children can do, and looks at ways to help them remember the tricky bits in common exception words in a fun and imaginative way!

### **Topic**

This half term our Topic is 'Prehistoric Britain' in which the children will learn about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age using an enquiry approach. They will be encouraged to ask and answer questions and to appreciate that our understanding of this period is constantly changing with new archeological discoveries. Please see the Topic Web for more details.

### **English**

Linking to our topic, our focus in English will be the narrative text "Stone Age Boy", a travel brochure "Skara Brae" and the instructions "How To Wash a Woolly Mammoth". We will look at a range of features linked to each text.

### **Maths**

Our main area of learning this half term is place value where we aim to secure our number knowledge up to 1000 before using this to help us with our adding and subtracting of 3-digit numbers. There will also be an emphasis on learning our times tables, starting with a secure knowledge of our 10 times, 5 times and 2 times tables and our speed of recall.

### **Other**

Oak class will be doing PE on **Wednesdays and Fridays** during the Autumn Term, and our moat day will be on **Monday**. Your child should come dressed in their PE kits on PE days and unless it is very wet, there should be no need for special moat clothes (just ensure arms and legs are covered by trousers/long sleeves to protect against stinging nettles). Pencil cases are encouraged at this time but please ensure it is small enough to fit into their trays and it (and its contents) should be clearly labelled with their name. Please avoid bringing in really precious items as we cannot guarantee that they will not get lost or broken.

Any further information will be communicated to you as it arises throughout the year through ParentMail, however please feel free to come and talk to us after school or drop us an email if there is something you wish to discuss.

Kind regards

Maggie Webb and Richard Marchant