November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Year 3! It has been a wonderfully positive start to the year and we feel the children have settled back into the routine of school very well. This half term our Topic is ‘Food, Glorious Food’. Children will be learning about the different food groups, how to design and make pizza, where food comes from, and how to keep a healthy lifestyle – please see the topic web for more details.

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**Adults in Oak class**

Mrs Webb will continue to teach the class on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Mr Marchant will teach on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Beeton and Mrs Van Dok will be with us every morning.

**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 from the class reading corner (or, if they prefer, from home) to keep in school, but will also be encouraged to read at home. 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. These reading records are to be kept at school. 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.

**Homework**

Children will be given a menu of homework in their homework books similar to last half term (also on school website - Class Pages - Oak) to complete over the half 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. We will expect a minimum of 5 pieces to be given in **two weeks before the end of term** (it is Christmas after all), but as it is a long half term, your child is free to complete more than this, if they have time (and are willing!) These should be completed in their homework books.

**Spelling**

As you already know, we have introduced a new approach to spellings as a school and have taken up the ‘Jane Considine’ method. The children will have spellings to learn in school, but the emphasis is on spelling patterns and on concentrating on what bit they got wrong and how they can learn the’ tricky bit’ of some very tricky words.

**Other**

Birch class will continue doing PE on **Wednesdays and Fridays** during the Autumn Term, and our moat days will still be 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, or on the school website, however, should you wish to speak to us please email us or the school office, who will pass on the message.

Best wishes,

Maggie Webb and Richard Marchant