

STAPLEFORD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
Bar Lane Stapleford Cambridge CB22 5BJ

Part of Anglian Learning

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I am absolutely thrilled to be your child's teacher this year as they take an important step up the school ladder, moving into Key Stage 2 for the very first time. This transition brings with it lots of new opportunities and responsibilities, and I know that for some children this will feel incredibly exciting, while for others it may feel a little daunting. Please be assured that I will always be here to guide, support, and reassure your child, helping them to settle in, grow in confidence, and thrive in their learning!

Adults in Oak class

Mr Jones will be Oak class' teacher for Year 3 all week long. The class will be supported by Mrs Beeton on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday while Mrs French will be supporting the class on Thursday and Friday. Mrs Smithies will be covering on Monday afternoons whilst Mrs Pugh will be covering on Wednesday afternoons.

Homework

Children will be given homework to complete throughout the half term. Tasks will be split into the following subject areas: English, Maths, Science, Topic and Art/DT. The homework menu will be given out on Monday, 8th September with tasks due on each Friday of the half term. These tasks should be completed in their homework books, which can be bought back into class at any point during the week before Friday.

Reading

One of our key aims in Year 3 is to help children discover the joy of reading for pleasure. When children enjoy books, they are more likely to read widely and often, which not only builds their confidence but also sparks their imagination and curiosity about the world around them. We'd love for the children to be able to explore a wide range of texts, including fiction, non-fiction, and poetry.

To support this, we will continue to practise comprehension skills together. Simple activities such as asking questions about what has been read, summarising the story in their own words, or discussing the meaning of unfamiliar words are all excellent ways to strengthen their understanding that you can easily do at home. Finally, we ask that children read with an adult at least three times a week. This shared time

makes a huge difference, as it allows children to practise fluency, build confidence, and enjoy the experience of reading alongside someone who can support and encourage them.

English

Linking to our first topic, we'll be reading 'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura as well as learning how to write instructions using the text 'How to Wash A Woolly Mammoth'.

Spelling

We will focus on teaching children a range of spelling strategies and rules, as well as giving them opportunities to investigate and practise our Year 3/4 common exception words in class. Our aim is for every child to grow in confidence and to become a Brave Speller.

To monitor progress, the children will be assessed regularly in school, allowing us to see how well they are applying their knowledge. We are really enthusiastic about this approach because it celebrates what children can do, while also helping them to tackle those tricky parts of common exception words in fun and imaginative ways.

Maths

For the first half term in maths, we will be looking at place value where we aim to make sure we are secure in our number knowledge up to 1000 before using that to help adding and subtracting 3-digit numbers. There will also be an emphasis on making sure we're secure in our knowledge of the 2, 5 and 10 times tables, which the children can practice through Times Table Rockstars (TTRS) and Mathletics before moving on to 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

Other

Oak class will be doing PE on Wednesday and Friday afternoons during the Autumn Term. Please ensure your child comes to school dressed in their PE kit on PE days. We are happy for the children to bring in their own pencil cases but please make sure it is small enough to fit into their trays, with its contents clearly labelled with their name. We also ask that the children avoid bringing in precious items from home as we cannot guarantee that they won't be lost/broken.

Any further information will be sent to you via [something] but feel free to catch me in the mornings or at pick-up or email through the office if you have any further questions. I'm really looking forward to this year and can't wait to work together to help further your child's education!

Kind regards,

Oliver Jones, Oak Class teacher.