

ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

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Dear Parents/Carers,

This year we will be holding an Open Classroom event on Monday 24th September from 3.15-4pm. You are welcome to come into school with your child to meet your child's class teacher and see the classroom. There will be opportunity to ask any questions and look at the learning environment. To support this we have attached an overview of some key information that we hope you will find useful.

Curriculum overview and main expectations for Year 3

- Autumn 1 topic is The British Isles.
- Autumn 2 and Spring 1 topic is The Greeks.
- Spring 2 topic is Rivers and Coasts.
- Summer 1 topic is Vikings.
- Summer 2 topic is History of Medicine.

Please see attached document for main expectations for English and Maths in Year 3.

PE and Swimming dates and kit required

- PE will be on Tuesday and Friday afternoons. Your child will need the following kit: shorts, t-shirts, trainers, tracksuit bottoms and hoodies.
- Swimming will take place on Monday mornings and will start in January. Please ensure you have returned the consent forms. For swimming lessons children will need the following: swimming costume or swimming trunks, towel and a swimming hat. Children may also bring goggles if they wish.

Homework

- Homework will be set each Friday and will consist of the following: spelling practise, regular reading (2-3 times per week) with comments recorded in reading records and a short 10-15 min maths activity. Occasionally, topic related homework might be set instead.

Behaviour and attitudes to learning

Children at St Johns are used to discussing their rights and responsibilities within the school community and are aware of the school's ethos and values that underpin this. In addition, regular discussions about characteristics of effective learning in class and whole school assemblies encourage the children to regularly reflect on themselves as learners. Staff will look for good behaviours and attitudes to learning and praise, reward and encourage rather than focussing on negative behaviours and negative language. To encourage this at school:

- Children may get credits for good behaviour and these are put towards a House trophy awarded every week in assembly.
- Children will be rewarded with a special Gold Book certificate during the year from their class teacher- this may be used to encourage positive behavior
- A traffic light system for behavior will be used in each class with children starting on green at the beginning of each new session.

- Teachers will enforce sanctions/consequences for disruptive behavior in line with the school's behavior policy which can be found on the school's website.

School trips

We will be going on the following trips this year:

October- Science festival approximate cost £12

January- whole school pantomime trip approximate cost £14

March- orienteering at Holt Hall approximate cost £16

July- Whitlingham Lake approximate cost £16

These approximate costings are based on fund raising events. I try to organise a fund raising activity each term in order to reduce the cost of school trips.

Forest Schools

Our forest school sessions will be in the afternoon on the following dates:

Friday 30th November

Friday 7th December

Friday 14th December

Children will need to bring a change of clothes for the sessions that are ok to get muddy and dirty. They will also need a pair of water-proof trousers, a water-proof jacket and a pair of wellie boots.

Website

All information about school events, homework and spellings will be available on the class page on the school website. The address is:
<http://hovetonstjohn.co.uk/children/year-3/>

Spellings

Spellings will be tested each Friday and new patterns or word lists sent out. For spelling patterns five spellings will be sent out for the children to learn and they will be tested on those plus an additional five they will have practised in class. They will also have a star word that they will not have had chance to practise beforehand but follows the spelling pattern set. Occasionally, children will also have a set of words sent home from the year group word lists. This will consist of approximately 15 words and the children will be tested on 10 of them chosen at random from the predetermined list.

This year we will be following a new Relationships and Sex Education curriculum for RSE. More information on this curriculum and an updated policy will be made available to you shortly. Information sessions will be available for anyone that wishes to discuss this in more detail please look out for information via the schools newsletter.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me

Kind regards,

J van Kampen