

TRANSITION TO YEAR 3 NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2017

Dear Parents



Grade 3 is an exciting and busy year. There are many opportunities and challenges ahead for your child.

WHAT'S DIFFERENT IN YEAR 3?

Year 3 is an immersion year in the sustainable village – where, aside from the core subjects and specialist subjects, learning centres around sustainability – looking after ourselves, other animals and the environment and includes:

- Gardening and cooking sessions –where children plant, tend, harvest, cook and eat the food they grow.
- Daily fitness sessions, water bottles on tables and morning fruit time in the classroom.
- Waste free Wednesdays and wrapper/waste free lunches where possible every day.
- As village farmers, taking on extra responsibilities in the garden and in the care and welfare of the village animals.
- Hatching chickens in term 1 and hand raising a larger animal in term 3
- A commitment to raising funds for heart research and also for our 'sister' school in Tigray, Ethiopia as part of a unit of work on helping others.
- A bigger play area– children can play on the oval & courts
- All children borrowing reading books directly from the library
- Homework = homework in Year 3 IS home reading, weekly spelling lists, set tables and the occasional open ended project.
- House Sports, House Cross Country and the opportunity for more able swimmers to participate in the Swimming Sports day.
- Nationwide testing (NAPLAN) in May .
- Excursions to Edendale Environmental Farm and Chesterfield Farm.

Under the **SUSTAINABILITY** banner units of work across the four terms include:

- Term 1 'We are Alive' & 'Living Things Change'
- Term 2 'Don't Trash the Earth' RETHINK, REDUCE REUSE, RECYCLE
- Term 3 'Healthy Eating' – eating a rainbow of colour daily with a special focus on dairy .
- Term 4 'Helping Others and Volunteers'

WHAT TO SEND WITH YOUR CHILD ON THE FIRST DAY

- school hat
- pencil case
- a box of tissues
- water bottle – to be kept on table
- fruit to have before recess – can be a piece of fruit or vegetable or fruit / vegetables chopped up in a container
- art smock
- alternate foot wear– crocs or similar
- food for recess and lunch in **named** containers

Please keep in mind that we promote healthy eating choices so lollipops, chips, sweet biscuits etc are not encouraged or recommended! Of course, as parents, this is your choice, but we teach the children that these are sometimes, not everyday foods.

The school provides **ALL** the supplies for your child. The **ONLY** items we ask you to buy are a **small pencil case and a box of tissues**. Please do not send along any extra coloured pencils, textas, highlighters or white out pens.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR YEAR 3

Home Reading – encourage reading for FUN from fiction as well as non-fiction books to improve general knowledge. Include a few books in the Christmas stocking? Join a local library?

Maths – Practise the times tables – knowing them all or as many as possible by heart would be a fantastic start to Year 3. Some children are also happy to continue to work on Mathematics during the holidays. **Play games** like Boggle, Upwords, Scrabble and Monopoly for family fun and for the spelling and maths involved.

BUT remember it is a holiday – make it a relaxing one. If learning tables, for instance, please make it a fun challenge for the whole family!

We look forward to getting to know your children and working with you in the new year!

Happy holidays from
The Year 3 team
Julie, Jan, Jenny, Murray, Kim, Diane, Ken and Maddy.

Please name /label everything clearly including lunch containers.

It's great to see the year3s with their reusable containers but they need to be named as do all items of clothing.

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FETE 2018

Are you handy ? One idea for next year's fete is to make small planter boxes from fence palings. Are you able to help?

During the holidays

Please keep any unwanted ceramic or pottery pots

Please collect plastic lids – milk, yogurt and vegemite etc.

Save us your newspapers in the few weeks before school starts.

We are always looking for 'different' succulents – if you have any at home please take and strike some cuttings for us.

GARDENING CLEAN UP

After the holidays the garden will be in need of a big tidy up. If you can spare the odd hour here and there we would love to see you in the first few weeks.