

## Our Classroom

Our classroom is situated on the junior corridor, near the middle door. You will therefore enter and exit school at the same door as you did in Year 2. In Year 3, our lessons aim to strike a balance between formal and fun! Whilst we have some serious learning to do, this is enriched by practical learning where possible – think first-hand experiences, fieldwork and investigations. Ultimately, we want our pupils to be engaged, curious and have a thirst for learning! Hands-on experience is crucial in children learning and remembering what they are taught, and we hope to utilise this to maximise knowledge and progress.

## What do I need to bring to school?

- Please bring a labelled water bottle and your school reading book and planner, every day. You may also bring a healthy snack for morning break.
- On PE days (Monday) you should come to school wearing your PE kit appropriate for the weather e.g. tracksuit pants in the winter, shorts in the summer. Hair must be tied back and earrings must be removed as per our earring policy. If children cannot remove earrings

themselves, please do so in the morning before school on PE days. Thank you.

- Please ensure that all items of clothing, especially jumpers and cardigans are labelled with your child's name.
- Lunches – children in Year 3 are not automatically eligible for free lunches. A school dinner costs £3.06 and can be ordered and paid for on SchoolGrid.
- Some children like to bring their own stationery in; please note that this is not a requirement. We will provide all necessary resources in a pencil case in school 😊

## Year 3 Homework

### Reading

For reading, our expectation is that you read with an adult **5 x per week, for a minimum of 20 minutes**. It is totally up to you when you prefer to read – some find it easier in the mornings, others like to relax with a book before bedtime. Whatever works! Please can an adult write and sign in your diary each time that you read. Planners are checked and signed **once a week** at school.

Reading regularly in this way has not only been proven to boost academic progress, but it is also linked to improved empathy, speech and language skills, concentration, and mental health!

You may change your reading book any day of the week, but please try to stick with a book until you are fluent, or for long enough to get an understanding of the whole story.

### Spellings

Each half term, children are given a 6-week spelling grid. Please follow these grids as per the correct week, learning the spelling rule, and not just the words. Spelling tests will be on Mondays.

### Times Tables

Times tables are an absolutely crucial part of children's maths journey – when learnt to automaticity, they can unlock doors to much more complicated calculations!

In Year 3, you should learn to count in 4s, 8s, 50s and 100s from 0.

You also need to learn your 3, 4 and 8 times tables fluently. This means you will be able to answer them in a random order, in less than 6 seconds! For example,  $4 \times 4$ ,  $3 \times 6$ ,  $8 \times 5$  and so on. Learning your times tables doesn't have to mean hours sat at a table – short ten-minute bursts work brilliantly! Here are some ideas for activities:

- Chant the times tables in order, and then mix them up e.g.  $1 \times 3$  is 3,  $2 \times 3$  is 6 and so on. Whisper them, shout them, or say them in a silly voice!
- Play 'random recall' and ask your child some quick questions whilst you are out shopping, making tea, driving or anywhere else!
- Practise writing out the question whilst saying it – you could use chalk, paint, felt tips etc. In the past, some children have created drawings filled with times tables!
- Use computer games. The following links are helpful:
  - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>
  - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

### Other subjects

We do not give any formal homework for other subjects. This is because the evidence states that it has little impact on outcomes and we would much prefer children using their home time for fun, playing outdoors, visiting family and friends and hobbies. In Year 3, we would love to hear about the exciting things you get up to at home, so please feel free to bring in pictures – we will always try to find time to discuss where we can 😊

## Queries/Concerns

If you have any queries or anything else that you would like to communicate with us, then we very much have an open-door policy. A member of staff will be on hand to speak with you on entry to school or after school when the children are being collected without an appointment. Please just catch us at the door.

If this is not possible due to work commitments, please arrange a telephone call via Mrs McManus in the school office on 01200 422239. Alternatively, you can email her at [bursar@edisford.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@edisford.lancs.sch.uk).

## Volunteers

KS2 are always looking for volunteers who may be able to volunteer an afternoon to help our children with their reading or even with their times tables skills! If you, or any grandparents, can donate your time at all, please see the class teacher. Thank you!