

Brize Norton Primary School

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Brize Norton
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Headteacher Mr. Mark Smith

Dear Parents,

Class 3 Information - Autumn 2012

Welcome back; we hope you all had a great summer break! We start the new year with our usual hefty workload, but our topic, The Firework-Maker's Daughter, is a great way to start, and the children seem raring to go!

Reading

We encourage the children to read a wide range of different texts, both fiction and non-fiction. Some children will be allocated a reading colour to choose from. As it is very difficult for us to hear children read individually on a regular basis we ask that parents help their child change books from the trolley outside Class 2 (library area). Children who are not reading from the graded book stock may choose books from the classroom shelves, which are coloured by genre. They may also read books from home, although we reserve the right to interfere if we feel more variety is needed! We ask that the children always have a reading book in their book bag - whether it is the one that they are reading at home or one that they are going to read in school. There will be some opportunities for the children to read independently and make notes in their school reading journal.

We expect all children to read for at least 15 minutes every evening from Monday-Thursday, and once over the weekend. We ask that an entry is made in the reading record each time your child reads. We like the children to comment on what they have read; they can explain what has happened, or comment on how they feel about an event or character. Or, they may read a word or phrase that they particularly like and think they could use in their own writing; they could jot this down in their reading record (it's called magpieing) and transfer it to their reading journal when they get to school. One or two complete sentences is enough, there are also ideas for activities in the front of your child's reading record. We expect the Year 4 children to write their own entries, and encourage the Year 3 children to do the majority themselves (although this can, of course, be with the support of parents. We appreciate that recording after reading can sometimes be a chore for the younger children, and can take some pleasure away from reading itself). Reading records are checked by Miss Kearvell every day; relevant information is then fed back to the class teacher. Please be aware that a response is not usually written in reading records due to time limitations.

Homework

Completing homework is highly valued in Class 3 and we expect every child to complete the tasks each week. It has an important role to play in the working week; it consolidates skills covered, or introduces new information ready for future lessons. We really appreciate the effort that is involved for both children and parents, especially for those who are new to the class and unfamiliar with the routines.

DAY RECEIVED	SUBJECT	DAY RETURNED
WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY OR FRIDAY DEPENDING ON YOUR CHILD'S SPELLING DAY	SPELLING	7 DAYS LATER
WEDNESDAY	MATHS	MONDAY of the following week.



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Physical Education

PE will take place on Tuesdays and Fridays but it would be advisable for your child to have their kit in school all week.

Cooking

As part of the creative curriculum we schedule cooking sessions into each of our topics. Sometimes these are weekly, at other times they involve a 'cook up' for a topic themed day (as is the case this term). To ensure that this is a valuable learning experience for the children, we will divide the class into small groups. As always, we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £1 for the half term.

Class Assembly

Our Class assembly will take place on the morning of 5th October at 9.10am. We do hope that you will come along for both the assembly and the follow-up workshop.

Fruit

Each day we have a story and snack at about 10.20am. During this time the children eat their fruit. We would like to remind you that children in Year 3 and above do not receive the free fresh fruit and so we encourage them to bring a piece from home as it really makes a difference to their ability to concentrate during the latter part of the morning.

Show and Tell

We are always interested to see the things the children bring in from home, especially if they are topic related or linked to unusual events! We do, however, have a problem with time limitations which means children cannot always show their things when they bring them in. For this reason we have a list, or rota, which gives everybody a fair chance and ensures time is set aside. We really appreciate parental support with this as we can become inundated at times and we don't like to disappoint the children.

Classroom Help

As ever any help, either regular or occasional, is always appreciated. If you have any spare time to listen to readers for example, or to help with cooking or making activities, please see one of us.

Yours sincerely
Sophie Kerr and Alex Rae
(Class Teachers)

Class 3 Cooking

I would like my child to take part in cooking and enclose a voluntary contribution of £1 for this half term.

Name of Child: _____ Parent signature: _____

