

## Dear Parents and Carers,



Welcome back to school after what, I hope, has been a fantastic summer (even if the weather hasn't always been on our side!) It has been lovely to welcome your children back to school and see how ready and raring they are to start learning in Key Stage 2! I know that it may feel like a big jump between infants and juniors, but the children have been rising to the challenge over the last week, and, please know, that your support in this is highly valued.

There is much to be excited about in this coming month, term and year, and I know that the children are ready to embrace the exciting new learning that we will cover – they have already been impressing me with their acquisition of French greetings – I'm sure they will already be able to tell you what 'bonjour', 'salut' and 'bonne nuit' mean and will use them at the right time of the day!

Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Barker will be working with year three this year, and I know that the children already have super relationships with them that will really enhance their learning throughout the year. We all want the very best for the children and know that you will also contribute to ensuring that the children have the best learning opportunities throughout the year!

This letter will tell you some key information about the year ahead and what it entails for your children, but I would also like to invite you to come along to a **Meet the Teacher** meeting on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September at 5pm**. The meeting is a good chance for you to meet the staff and have time to talk about the routines, expectations and plans for the exciting year ahead.

If you have any concerns or questions, please do feel free to catch me either before or after school as I'm greeting children as they come into or leave to go home. If it is more convenient, you can also leave me a message with the school office, and I will try my best to accommodate you at a more appropriate time. You can also email me directly at: [year3@woodstone.leics.sch.uk](mailto:year3@woodstone.leics.sch.uk) and I will respond as promptly as possible.

### Dojo Points and Rewards

As I am sure the children have told you, at Woodstone In Year 3, we use a system known as **dojo points**. Each child has been assigned an avatar known as a dojo monster and will earn dojo points as a reward for positive behaviour. Once children reach a certain amount of dojo points, they receive praise from the class as well as rewards, such as choosing a new monster to represent them or a treat from the treat box. The children have already started collecting these points for all sorts of positive learning and behaviour at the start of year 3 and I look forward to seeing what they can achieve throughout the year.



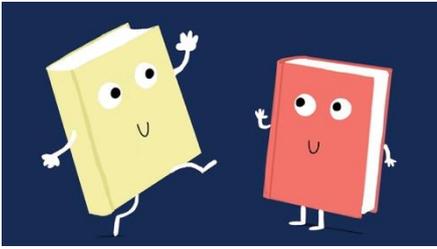
### Snacks and Drinks

As a Healthy School, we encourage the children to drink water throughout the day and so ask that you ensure your child brings a named bottle of water with them every day; school has a fresh water fountain so they can top it up as necessary. Woodstone's tuck shop is open and Year 3 children will be able to purchase healthy snacks during break times. There is a tuck shop price list attached to this email but everything is reasonably priced between 5p and 35p.

### Forest School

Whilst in Key Stage 2, children at Woodstone enjoy Forest School sessions in half-term blocks. The Year 3 class will be taking part in Forest School sessions on Tuesday afternoons until the October half-term. Their first session will be next week, on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September**. Please ensure that your child has their Forest School kit (especially a long sleeved top and long trousers) with them on Thursdays.

## Reading



Reading is so highly regarded at Woodstone and regular reading, followed by discussion about what has been read, is essential to develop a child's vocabulary and comprehension skills. We ask that parents work with us to help the children develop into passionate readers. Year 3 will continue to have their reading records that will go home every evening with the children, and they should aim to read and record their reading in this at least 5 times per week. There will be extra dojos awarded for children who do this on a weekly basis (5 reads = 5 dojos and more than 5 reads may result in a LOT more dojos!) If adults could please sign and date their reading records each time they read with them, and if your child is beginning to read independently, they can also record this. Woodstone's KS2 policy is that children should be reading at least 5 times weekly (this includes reading with staff at school) and if they have not done this, they will need to make up this reading time *during break time on Friday*. More information on supporting your child's reading at home can be found on the 'Letters' tab on the Year 3 section of the school website.

## Times Table Rock Stars

At Woodstone, we try to provide children with every opportunity to learn and grow. Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) is a fun, engaging learning resource to help children develop their multiplication skills. It is important that children play TTRS at home. Playing this game will not only develop times table skills, but also help to boost children's confidence during maths lessons. We ask that Year 3 children play for 15 minutes a week; games are a minute long so that means playing for 3 minutes a day after school. If the weekly sessions aren't completed, children *will make up their practice during break time*. The week's top rock stars will receive dojo points for their efforts! More details on how to use TTRS can be found under the Letters tab on the Year 3 section of the school website.

## P.E.

Since Year 3 have Forest School this half-term, we will only have one outdoor P.E. session which will usually take place on **Friday afternoons**. Please ensure that your child brings their P.E. kit on a Monday and keeps their P.E. kit at school as our timetables can change. P.E. kit is an essential part of their uniform is also designed to ensure health and safety guidelines are adhered to at all times. Please check regularly that their kit fits (especially footwear) and includes:

- Outdoor: trainers suitable for playground and field, tracksuit bottoms, blue or white t-shirt, sweatshirt or hoodie (Woodstone hoodies are now available to order).
  - Indoor: pumps, a blue or white t-shirt and blue shorts.
- Long hair must be tied up during P.E. lessons. Jewellery must not be worn during P.E. lessons and should be removed before the children come to school.

## Homework

Homework will continue to be set on Friday and is expected to be returned by the following Thursday. We will continue to alternate between maths worksheets and spellings practice which complement our classroom learning. Class dojo points are rewarded to children who complete their homework early. Homework will be set from next Friday, **September 9th**.

## Topics

Over the next 2 half terms, we will be covering lots of learning in English, Maths and Topic lessons – including finding out all about the Stone Age, the Diversity of the UK and the importance of rocks in science whilst really challenging ourselves with some quality texts to inspire our writing! You can find a long-term teaching plan and detailed curriculum map of the subjects we will be covering on our school website under the **Curriculum Overview** tab on the Year 3 section of the website.

Kind regards, Mrs Hannah Joels