

WESTERN ROAD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
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12th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 3! We hope you have had a great summer holiday. It has been wonderful getting to know your children and great to meet so many of you over the last few days at drop off and pick ups. Just to remind you, Mrs Bedford will be in class on a Monday, Mrs Sakaki will be in class Tuesday to Friday, and Mrs Mannering and Miss Billington will be supporting the class from Monday – Friday. Mrs Mannering will also be covering Mrs Sakaki's planning time on a Friday afternoon and teaching in class.

To welcome everybody back this week, the whole school have been focusing this week's learning on the text, 'The Mirror' where the pictures explore two boys and their families doing everyday things, but one lives in Australia and the other in Morocco, North Africa. Our learning has focused on our reading skills of making inferences and connections about the wordless picture book and learning about onomatopoeia, where we made pages of the book come alive with sound.

Our first learning journey in Year Three is 'The UK' with our focus question being, 'What do maps tell us about the UK? This is a geography focused topic all about the country we live in and everything around us. We will be thinking 'what can I learn from a map?' and learning how to read, follow and design maps. We will also be exploring the essential skills of a map maker, including compass skills, understanding of direction, coordinates and scale.

This will link with our work in English, where we will be exploring a range of focus texts linked to journeys. Mrs Bedford's English lessons will have a predominantly reading focus based on the book 'Fortunately the Milk.' We will use this text to explore a range of grammar techniques, powerful vocabulary, and other author's techniques to engage the reader. Mrs Sakaki will be starting with the book, 'The Journey', where we will review the components of a narrative story, enrich our sentence structure by using conjunctions and interesting descriptive language that captures one's imagination. These lessons will lead onto writing a narrative story about their own creative journey. We will also begin to share weekly key word focuses where we will explore different ways in class to learn key words. These will become our non-negotiable words where we will use word banks in class to ensure we are spelling words accurately in our written work. We will also continue to do some phonics lessons, using the Sounds Write program started in Key Stage 1 last year.

Your child has hopefully come home with a new, green reading record and 2 reading books. We plan to change these weekly. Please read at home with your child daily to support their progress and record this in their reading record. Please ensure your child brings their reading record and books in daily. We will be reading with your children in a variety of ways; whole class shared reading, guided reading carousel and 1:1. If your child is a free reader, they are welcome to read books from home or our book corner. All children will also be visiting the library fortnightly so will have the opportunity to take free choice books home. Please help them to look after these books.

In maths we have started the term by looking at place value. We will explore 3 digit numbers by looking at the place value of each digit and then using this knowledge to compare different numbers. This term we

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will also look at addition and subtraction of numbers up to 1000 by using a range of strategies for calculating addition and subtraction problems. They will need to be able to explain how they have solved problems, especially when using mental maths.

For science this term our topic is Forces. This will include investigating how magnets work, thinking about compasses and conducting experiments which test out different forces such as gravity, air resistance and water resistance. Throughout science we will be conducting fair tests and measuring force using Newtons.

Our art this term will focus on two elements of art: line and colour. We will look at the works of British artists, Eric Ravilious and David Hockney in how they use these elements and develop various techniques to create images inspired by Ravilious's and Hockney's work.

In PSHE we will be reminding ourselves of the Zones of Regulation and exploring our emotions and building toolkits to support our emotions. We will continue in our work on getting to know each other, positive friendships and interactions.

We have PE on a Tuesday (yoga) and Thursday (PE). Please can your child come into school in full PE kit on those days. On Tuesdays we will have yoga and on Thursday we will be focusing on personal skills which involves learning how to take turns, listen to instructions, and remain focused and setting personal targets.

We will have alternative Music and French lessons over the term. In Music we will explore rhythm and beat and in French we will begin learning basic saying and how to respond to them.

RE will focus on Christianity for two terms. We will be using resources provided by the scheme 'Understanding Christianity' to explore two questions: 'What do Christians learn from the Creation story?' and 'What is it like for someone to follow God?'

In Computing we will learn how to use Word and Power Point, so we will be able to successfully utilize this skill to enhance our presentation of our learning.

Homework will be set on Fridays to be completed by the following Wednesday. It will usually be an online MyMaths task, key words to learn for the week and an activity based on one of our lessons from that week. We will start spellings by going through some year 2 and 3 common exception words, this will enable us to create more specific spelling groups where appropriate later on in the term. All homework will be set on Seesaw and can be completed and handed in on there too. Please do let me know if you have any problems with Seesaw and need paper copies of homework.

We will be holding a Welcome Meeting on Thursday 15th September at 2.45. We look forward to seeing you there. If you can't make it please do let us know through the school office and we can arrange for slides and any resources shared to be passed on to you.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to see us.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Kerry Bedford and Mrs Sarah Sakaki

Mrs Mannering and Miss Billington

Year Three Class Teachers

Year Three Support Staff