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Dear children, parents and carers, 3.09.26

Welcome back and welcome to Year 3! I hope you had a lovely summer break and are looking forward to the new and exciting challenges of being in Key Stage 2 (KS2)! This letter will let you know all the important things about our new class. We will be having a Welcome Meeting to explain this to you in person on Tuesday 15th September at 3:30. We hope you will be able to join us.

Staff

Year 3 will be taught by Mrs. Field on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and Miss Chapman on a Thursday. Mrs. Snarr and Mrs. Seaton-Jones will also support the class. We all work very closely together and use the same classroom routines to ensure consistency for the children.

Communication

We are always happy to discuss anything with our children's families. There will a member of staff available just before and after school at the door for this. You can ring up the school office to make an appointment or catch one of us at the school gate. Class information and photos of the children's activities will be posted on the school **website**. Please check the Year 3 pages regularly for updates - http://www.st-james-hyde.tameside.sch.uk/. We also often send out letters or text messages so please look out for these.

Rewards

We love to reward hard work and great behaviour! Our Golden Rules have shown to be really effective in supporting children to understand and make good choices. They are **Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be Safe.** We will be talking about what they mean in class in the first week back but they cover making sure you are ready to learn and allow everyone else to learn; you are respectful to yourself, each other, learning and individual differences; and you are safe in our environment and with our property. Children can earn dojos daily for working towards these aims, and milestones are recognised with badges in **Community assemblies** (which you are welcome to attend each **Thursday at 9am**). We also love to send home text messages to let you know about exceptional work or behaviour.

Children who struggle to choose appropriate behaviour will be monitored using our Consequences system. First a verbal warning will be given. If the behaviour continues, they will be given a second warning and this will be recorded by the teacher. If the behaviour continues, they will be given reflection time during break or lunch, to discuss what happened with an adult. If the behaviour still continues, they will be asked to work independently in another classroom. Further continuation, or serious incidents, will be dealt with by a member of the Senior Leadership Team and may involve the Warning Book. Children are always given the chance to change their behaviour and this will be noticed and celebrated.

P.E.

The children will have PE on a **Tuesday.** All children must come to school in **full PE kit** on this day. Full PE kit includes a **plain white t-shirt, plain navy blue or black shorts or jogging bottoms, and black pumps** (which can be left in a bag in school) **or trainers. Children should not wear any other sports wear.** Children can wear their school jumper throughout the day. Children need their hair tied up and we would prefer the children not to wear earrings. If this is not possible you must sign a consent form accepting full responsibility for any injury that occurs (available at the office) and please ensure your child wears small studs. **This year we would expect children to be able to tie their own shoe laces so get practising at home!** Children who do not have full PE kit will not be allowed to take part in PE for safety.

Reading

Reading at home continues to be really important for your child's learning. Children will bring home a reading book and Reading Record. They must **bring these books to school every day** in their bookbags. They will be changed by staff. Reading these books at home is a great chance for you to see your child's progress and support them in their learning. Please read as often as you can, this could take just 10 minutes, or as long as you like, **and simply record the date and a short comment in the Reading Record book.** This will show us your child has read. School reading will be done in reading lessons, so we may not always write in these books. As well as reading, it is very important you **discuss the book, and ask and answer questions** to develop comprehension skills.

Homework

Each half term the children will get a homework project. This does not need to be completed until the end of that half term. It will be linked to the topic being taught in class and is a chance to get creative and share learning together. It can be whatever you wish and can be done using things in your house or local library. Please do not worry about the projects being 'fancy', whatever you come up with together is great!

Spellings

Your child will get spellings to practise and learn each week. These will be given out on a **Friday** and tested the following **Friday**. Learning to spell useful words is a vital part of your child's reading and writing education. **Please practise spellings little and often using the look, cover, write, check** technique, and make them meaningful by writing them in a sentence. There will be no book for this, the children will bring home a sheet on a Monday, and you can use any paper you have. This should be one practise each night, rather than all in one go. Now the children are in KS2, they will also be expected to practise their spellings on **Spelling Shed** by playing **at least 3 games each night**. They will be rewarded for regular practise with dojos.

Times Tables

This year the children will have regular times tables tests. This will begin with the 2's, 5's and 10's and gradually on to 3's, 4's and 8's. Children are expected to practise for this by completing **at least 3 games each night** on **Time Tables Rock Stars**. They will be rewarded for regular practise with dojos.

Catholic Life

The class prayer bag will come home with a different child each week and should be returned on Monday. Please use the items inside to say prayers together as a family. If you wish you can write in the class prayer intention book. In Year 3 the children have the opportunity to take part in the Sacramental Programme. We will be touch later in the year with details about how to take part in this.

Music

An exciting part of moving to KS2 is getting to play an instrument! Children will be allocated an instrument to bring home and practise. They must look after it and bring it in **every Friday** for music lessons. If they forget their instrument they will not be able to join in with that part of the music lesson.

Snack

In KS2 children may bring their own small, healthy snack for morning playtime. A snack will not be provided. Water is available at any time of the day. If you wish for your child to have milk each day, it is possible to pay for this at the office. This year we are again promoting and celebrating healthy eating. We will be having lessons in the first week to discuss what is and isn't a healthy snack and parents will be informed too. The children will earn Dojo's for healthy snacks. Sweets, chocolate and sharing sized bags of crisps should not be provided as they do not provide the nutrients children need for a successful day at school, and contain too much sugar and salt.

Clothing

Every year children arrive in beautiful new uniform, and every year some of them have lost it within the first week! Please remember to write your child's name in **all** items of clothing. If an item does not have a name in it, we may write it in.

I hope this letter is helpful. If you have any questions or queries at all, please feel free to see either of us in class after school.
Regards,
Mrs. Field, Miss Chapman, Mrs. Snarr and Mrs. Seaton-Jones