

September 2026



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year! I hope you all had a relaxing summer and enjoyed some lovely weather. As we settle back into the school routine, I want to reassure you that I am here to support your children every step of the way, especially if they are feeling a little nervous.

I look forward to seeing you at our **Meet the Teacher meeting**, which will be held in school on **Thursday 10th September at 3.15pm**. Cardinals will be taught by Miss Silva and supported by Mrs Green.

Autumn Term Learning

In **English** children will continue to focus on grammar, punctuation and writing using a variety of engaging texts. The first text we will use as a model for writing is, Mini Rabbit Not Lost followed by poetry: Words Are Ours' (Michael Rosen) & 'The Magic Box' (Kit Wright). Children will learn to write sentences in the correct tense and use a range of punctuation. They will learn and apply spellings rules in different contexts.

In **Maths**, we will begin by exploring number and place value, which includes reasoning skills. We will then move onto mental addition and subtraction and the link with fact recall. We will then explore 2D shape and perimeter as well as angles and lines. Problem Solving will form a large part of our everyday lessons and will have regular maths meetings to aid retrieval of previously learned skills.

In **Science**, our topic is 'Light.' Children will be carrying out investigations to understand different sources of light (luminous and non-luminous objects), reflection, shadows, and the importance of protecting our eyes from electromagnetic radiation from the sun or man made objects such as sunbeds. Second half-term our focus will be on 'Rocks'.

The first half of the term will see us learn our first **History** unit of the year. We will be exploring the Stone Age and this unit links nicely into future history topics later in the year. Moving into Autumn 2 we will commence our first **Geography** unit on earthquakes.

PE will take place twice weekly. The first session, on a Monday afternoon, will focus on the team games of Tag Rugby with an introduction to passing and receiving the ball with Mr Stevenson-Leigh our PE coach. The children will learn relevant technical skills and explore various tactics associated with invasion games. The second session will take place on Thursday afternoons with Mrs Jeffries where children will learn handball.

This term, **French** will focus on developing phonics in spoken language. We will focus on numbers, colours and greetings and have further opportunities to make the sound-written link by listening to words and anticipating their spelling.

Our key religions in **R.E.** this term are Hinduism and Christianity. We will explore and compare religious festivals and celebrations. In Autumn 2, we will focus on the true meaning of Christmas.

The whole school will follow the Jigsaw scheme of work for personal, social and health education (**PSHE**). 'Being me in the world' and 'Celebrating differences' are the topics explored this term.

In **Art**, children will be focusing on **drawing**: abstract art where the subject does not necessarily look like it does in real life. They will be using composition: using a range of shapes and images to

put together in a pleasing way. Moving into Autumn 2, children will be learning painting and mixed media.

This term in **DT** children will be designing, analysing, and programming wearable technology. Children will be learning to understand the impact of the digital revolution in the world of (D&T) product design.

Mr Dickinson will continue to teach **Music** on a Wednesday morning (for the first half term), providing opportunities to play various instruments and explore genres of music and song.

In **Computing**, we will learn about connecting computers and creating media, which will involve stop-frame animation. We will also spend time learning about how to be safe online.

PPA

My weekly planning, preparation and assessment time will take place on a Monday afternoon and a Thursday afternoon. This will be covered by Mrs Jeffries and Mr Stevenson-Leigh (PE).

Home Learning

Home learning is especially important in Year 3 as children grow in independence. It will involve completing a selection of activities based on our learning from the previous and current week.

Reading is a vital part of home learning, and we ask that you continue to ensure you're your child reads for at least ten minutes every day. As part of 'Give Me Ten,' it is important that your child's reading record is signed by an adult daily and that your child's reading record and book come into school every day. Children need to read at least ten minutes at home. Each book needs to be read at least three times to ensure understanding and to be able to read with fluency. Children should be encouraged to demonstrate understanding of the text by talking about the main events. Please talk to your child about what they have read. On our class page, you will find documents to support these conversations at home as well as a list of recommended reads for Year 3 children that are suitably challenging.

Please also practice your child's 'Maths Magicians' facts with them for 10 minutes a day. Maths Magicians focuses on supporting pupils to learn key mathematical facts that are essential if pupils are to understand more complex concepts. Children across the school are expected to work towards knowing and remembering the key facts for their year group, which can be found on the Maths Star of our class page on the school website. Of course, children will be taught these facts in class, but it is important that they practise these at home too. There are 12 stages for the children to work through each term, with a quiz each Friday. Successful completion of quizzes will result in prizes being awarded in our weekly celebration assembly.

Optional additional home-learning includes practising times tables (**your child's Times Tables Rockstars log-in is in the front of their homework book**) and handwriting. Further information and links to relevant websites can be found on our class page. There, you will also find a document that shows the stages of development in mathematical reasoning; it includes questions that you could ask your child at home to help them think more deeply about mathematical problems they may encounter in the real world as well as in their home learning.

Homework and Spellings:

Reminder homework is given out each Friday and should be returned by the following Wednesday. Please help your child to complete the tasks and return them to school on time.

Please support children to learn their weekly spelling using the **'look, cover, write and check'** method.

Reading:

Children will have reading lessons daily in school. Reading books will be changed Mondays and Fridays. Please encourage children to continue to read each book loudly and with fluency at least three times before changing them. This will ensure they have a better understanding of the text. Continue to use bookmarks with questions to support understanding. Please ensure children bring their reading folders in every day.

Please do refer to the knowledge organisers for details of all areas of learning on the website. If you have any questions, please do contact me and I will be pleased to clarify.

Miss Silva

Year 3 Class Teacher