



Lower Key Stage 2
Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn Term 2024



Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome back to an exciting new year in Year 3/4 and well done to all the children; they have all made such a positive start. And what a start! We have certainly kicked off the new year in style with our amazing All Saints' Car show which was absolutely brilliant!

A special pat on the back to our new Year 3 children who have settled into Lower Key Stage 2 extremely well, and to our Year 4s for supporting them and being wonderful role models.

Staffing

Lower KS2 this year comprises of three classes:

Badgers Class with Miss Gibson (Monday-Thursday) & Mrs White (Friday).

Otters Class with Mrs Martinez (Monday-Tuesday) & Mrs Hayes (Wednesday-Friday)

Foxes Class with Miss Rose.

The children will be further supported by a team of excellent TAs: Mrs Williams, Mrs Jaques, Mrs Miles, Mrs Cole, Mrs Atkins, Mrs Dickinson, Mrs Dale & Mrs Robinson.

Topics

Our first topic this term is Top Gear and what an outstanding start to this topic we have had with our amazing All Saints' Car Show! We would all like to say a huge thank you to the wonderful people who gave up their time and not only bought vehicles in, but spent time talking to the children and allowing them to sit in the cars. Next half term our topic will be Antarctic Adventure. Full details of each of these topics can be found on our school website.

Bits and Bobs!

New to our Year 3s but not to our Year 4s: All of the children have their own lockers in their classrooms. These lockers are big enough to hold a coat, a **small** bag, a PE kit and a lunch box. No large rucksacks please. The children also need a named bottle of water each day.

Also new to Year 3 - a later lunchtime and no afternoon break! The children do feel quite hungry by morning break (11.15am) so please ensure they have a healthy snack with them, something which will keep them going until lunchtime at 12.30pm. Do please remember we are a nut free school.

Please make sure that all the children have a **full named PE kit in school every day**. As the weather gets colder this term their PE kit should also contain a tracksuit. All the children will have PE with Mr Marks on Thursdays. They also have a second PE lesson with their class teacher. These are on different days which is why we ask that they have their kit in school every day please.

In Year 3/4 half termly enrichment homework will be set linked to our topic and we love seeing what children produce with you at home. Other key skills to practise regularly are reading, spellings and times tables.

Reading

Reading is a vital skill which impacts on all areas of the curriculum. The children all have a reading record - we would encourage you to hear your children read at home as much as you can, ideally every day, and record this in the reading record. Whilst many of the children are becoming more fluent and independent readers the development of their comprehension is crucial. Hear them read aloud, encourage them to read some of their books on their own and explore content with them through questions and discussions.

Tables

Fluency with multiplication tables is a key element of our maths teaching in Year 3/4. The children need to be able to recall multiplication facts quickly and out of order. In Year 2 the children will have focussed on 2x, 5x & 10x tables. In Year 3 the emphasis shifts to 3x, 4x and 8x tables. In Year 4 it is all of the rest! There are lots of great games on Top Marks to help (Hit the Button & Daily Ten are two very good games), the children will also have a log on to Times Tables Rockstars. Practice makes perfect - little and often.

Spellings

All of the children will receive weekly spellings, set on a Monday via Ed Shed. **Spellings will commence on 9.9.24.** (Log-ons will be the same as last year.) We introduce these words in class at the start of the week and they form the basis of our spelling lessons across the week. As with the tables little and often is best and we recommend at least 3 practices at home per week; it is important that they practise the words at home to reinforce what they have learnt in class.

Contacting Staff

If there is anything that you need to discuss, please don't hesitate to speak to us. In order to ensure any questions and/or concerns are dealt with as effectively as possible in the first instance, please speak to your child's class teacher. If more support is needed please then speak to the Y3/4 Phase Leader Miss Gibson.

Hopefully, and usually this means that any queries can be sorted out promptly, but if necessary, concerns can then be referred to the Headteacher Mr Brown.

The quickest & best way to get a message to the staff is through the school office. You can also email the Y3/4 team directly on:

year34@allsaintsprimaryschoolmaldon.co.uk

Please be aware that this email will not be checked out of school hours or whilst we are teaching.

Reminder: Classrooms open from 8.30am, please ensure that the children are in school in good time in order for us to get the class registered by 8.45am. This is so we can start lessons or go to collective worship promptly. If children are late and arrive after registration has closed, they will need to enter via the front door as classroom doors will be locked. At the end of the school day, children should be collected **promptly** at 3.15pm from their classroom.

Year 3/4 is a fantastic two years of school life and learning with amazing topics which we know that the children will enjoy. We look forward to working in partnership with you all and very much value your continued support.

Thank you from all the Year 3/4 team