



Belgrave St. Bartholomew's Academy

Sussex Place, Longton, Stoke on Trent
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THE ST. BART'S
ACADEMY
— TRUST —

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Year 3!

We would like to keep you updated with plans, expectations and developments in Year 3. As always, we appreciate your support with your child's progress.

The Year 3 Team

J1: Miss Smith (Class Teacher) and Mrs Buckley (Support Staff)

J2: Miss Comber (Class Teacher) Mrs Dennis and Mrs Harrison (Support Staff)

Autumn Topic

This term, our topic is 'Building Empires' and we will be looking at the Romans! The children have been very excited about this and we have kick started the topic by looking into the story of 'Romulus and Remus' and how Rome began. We have also been looking into Roman Entertainment and the children are researching the different activities that the Romans did for fun! We will also be arranging a local excursion later in the term, where the children will take part in different Roman workshops - details of this will follow on a separate trip letter.

Measuring progress

Following on from the changes to the curriculum last year, children will now be assessed using stages in both English and Maths. Your child's stage will have been discussed with you during parents evening meetings last year. These stages relate to your child's attainment and the school will continue to use these to show how your child is progressing throughout each year. If you would like to know more information on how to further support your child at home please speak to one of the Year 3 Team.

Uniform and PE Kits

We seem to be developing a growing amount of lost property in school, **please** can you ensure that all of your child's uniform has their name **clearly** written inside using a permanent pen or a name tag. Please ensure your child remembers to wear their tie to school every day, as over the past few weeks this has sometimes been an issue. Year 3 will be having two PE slots during the week on a **Thursday and Friday**, so please ensure that your child has a full PE kit in school everyday and that it is clearly marked with the child's name. In addition, on PE lesson day's long hair must be tied back and all jewellery removed.





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Planners and Reading Books

Your child will be issued with a new reading book every week and all children are asked to bring their planners and reading books to school every day. Please ensure that planners are signed by a parent or guardian on a weekly basis to indicate that you have seen your child's planner the previous week and listened to them read at home. **It is an expectation that you will listen to your child read at least three times a week.**

The format of the planners is the same as last year and there is an example of how to complete one of these below.

This page will show your child's record of reading for a half-term.

The light blue rows are for staff, the dark blue rows are for you to complete when you have listened to your child read.

Reading Record										
Week Beginning	Book Title	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	Comment	Signed
17/9/15	James and the Giant Peach	✓				✓			Excellent expression	S.McCann
17/9/15	Horrid Henry		✓	✓	✓		✓		Read well at home	[Signature]
21/9/15	James and the Giant Peach			✓		✓			Great inference skills	S.McCann
21/9/15	Horrid Henry			✓		✓		✓	Finished the book	[Signature]
28/9/15	Friend or foe?			✓		✓			Good retrieval skills	S.McCann
28/9/15	The Demon Headmaster	✓		✓		✓			Tried hard with tricky words	[Signature]

Staff will listen to your child during Guided Reading lessons, these books will be different from the ones your child is reading at home.

Each week your child's planner must show that they have read at home three times by ticking in the correct column. Your child will also be listened to at school and staff will also record this in your child's planner.

If you wish to send a message to your child's teacher, please complete a box in the green 'messages' section, staff will look at this on a weekly basis. This section may also be used for additional messages home, reminders or extra homework therefore please check this when signing the planner. There are staff members on the doors every morning from 8:30 – 8:40am if your message is urgent.





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Homework

Homework is an important aspect of your child's education. In line with expectations for Key Stage 2, your child will receive three sets of homework every week; **spellings, times tables and reading**. These three areas are vital to your child's academic progress therefore we appreciate your support in helping your child to complete their tasks each week. If a child's homework is repeatedly late, this will result in warnings and then a yellow card. There may be occasions where your child will receive additional homework for either English, Maths, Science or Topic however this will not be on a weekly basis. There will also be a half termly 'Optional Homework Grid'— where there will be several activities which the children can complete at home to do with our half termly topics.

Attendance

Attendance is still a key school priority this year. Children should be encouraged to attend school every day unless there is a genuine reason for them to remain at home. If your child is not well enough to attend school please phone the office to inform us of this by 10 am. 90% in exams is great but 90% attendance is the equivalent to half a day a week absence. Holidays can not be authorised in school time anymore unless under exceptional circumstances so please work with us by avoiding booking holidays in term time.

Finally, if there are any questions or queries regarding Year 3 or this letter, please speak to any member of staff from the Year 3 team.

Thank you for your support,

The Year 3 team.

Helping your child at home:

Fantastic websites to help with your child's learning:

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/bitesize

www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise

