



Aim High,
Dear parents/carers,

Fly High

I hope you have enjoyed the summer break and are all well. I am pleased to welcome your child and family to Year 3. Following the unique circumstances of our return, my key focus will be settling the children, addressing any anxieties and focusing on positive learning behaviours. I am sure this will not take too long - even on the first day the children proved to be happy, adaptable and most of all pleased to be back. I am confident they will thrive on being back together within the class and our school community.

Once we are settled, we will have a very busy term ahead of us. Our main learning focus will be our topic '*Anglo-Saxons*.' In this topic we will study who this important group of people were, their place in history, aspects of their culture and their impact upon this country. In addition, this term's science topics will be: *States of Matter* and *Living Things*. More information about the learning we will be doing this term can be found on the accompanying curriculum grid.

This term P.E. will be on Tuesdays and will be outside PE only. Please ensure that your child has appropriate P.E. kit for the weather (plain white T-shirt, shorts or jogging trousers, sweatshirt and suitable footwear for outside activities). Please also be aware that, for health and safety reasons, earrings must be removed for P.E. Due to the situation with Covid-19, children will not be able to change for PE sessions in school and so will be expected to wear kit to school on PE days. Children will also run the daily mile each day and will have an outdoor learning session every week (these sessions will start in the next few weeks). For this reason, we request children wear trainers or robust shoes with their uniform every day.

Children are welcome to bring in a healthy fruit or vegetable snack during morning playtime. We encourage children to bring a named bottle of water to drink during the day which will be returned for washing every evening. Children are also required to bring their own hand sanitizer and packet of tissues. To carry these items, children may bring a **small bag** to school each day. Please remember we do not currently have access to the cloakrooms so the children must be able to hang this small bag on the back of their chair inside the classroom. If children choose a packed lunch they should bring that too. Lunches will now be eaten in the classroom.

Home learning in Year 3 is a mixture of compulsory and optional activities. Each week, children will be expected to use Times Tables Rockstars and Spelling Shed to practise key skills in these areas and they will be assessed on their progress in spelling each Monday. Your child should also read regularly at home and complete a weekly challenge from our Guided Reading learning challenge grid. The grid can be found on Starz and activities should be returned via messages on this platform.

In addition, an optional grid of home learning activities will also be emailed out and put onto Starz at the beginning of each half term. In Year 3, this grid home learning **is optional** and children are encouraged to choose the activities they would like to complete. The activities are a mixture of English and Maths tasks alongside topic-based learning. These tasks should also be sent back via Starz please.

During these unprecedented times, if you feel you have a concern that you need to discuss with at greater length, please do make an appointment via the school office. These meetings can be on the phone, virtually or in person at a social distance. Unfortunately, you will not be able to come into school or speak to me without an arranged appointment. Quick notices can be passed to via the school office or by leaving a message with the member of staff on gate duty.

I look forward to working with you and your child and an exciting year ahead.

Best wishes,

Sam Butler
Blackbirds class teacher