

# Saint Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Helen Crowder



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## Year 3 Welcome Newsletter

Hello and welcome to Year 3! We hope you have all had a lovely summer and the children are rested and ready to go! We have lots of new and exciting topics planned which we hope the children will enjoy. For many children the jump to KS2 can seem a little overwhelming. Please be re-assured that we are here to support that transition both emotionally and academically. Now that your child has moved into KS2, please help us, to help them to become more independent by encouraging them to remember to bring their reading bags and homework back in on time; to remember which days they are expected to learn their spellings and tables for and which days they have P.E.

We are always available via dojo so please drop us a message if you wish to discuss anything about your child that you feel we should know and/or will help them to settle in better.

We are really pleased to be your child's class teachers and we look forward to continuing to build the strong home school relationships that have already been established from Year 2.



**Mrs Ferguson**



**Mrs Ibbetson**

### Staff

We are both Mums - Mrs Ibbetson has 2 girls and Mrs Ferguson 3 boys – so we understand the many joys and demands(!) that having school-age children can bring! We work closely together to plan our curriculum and ensure the children receive the support they need to succeed.

We will also have parent/adult helpers throughout the week. If anyone would like to come in and support on a regular basis for an afternoon or morning, you'd be very welcome.

If you can't catch a member of staff at the beginning or end of school day, please do ring/email school or write on Class Dojo if there is anything you think we need to know.

### Reading

Your child will bring 2 home-readers home every week from our KS2 scheme starting next week. They will have a set day to bring these in to be changed. They will bring home an A5 Home Reading Booklet for you to record the book title, date, minutes read, page and any comments.

To encourage the children to read daily, we have a 'Reading Around the World Challenge' in y3. For ANY reading that your child does at home they will earn 'reading air-miles' as they try to read around the world. This is recorded in a separate book where each circle needs to be initialed by a parent every-time your child reads for 10 minutes. This will equate to 500 reading miles towards their next destination. The 'Reading Around the World Log' will be sent home with their reading books next week.

## Homework

Homework is a valuable way of enhancing your child's learning and we greatly value your support. Each term/half term we will be sending out our 'Learning Log' homework. Children will have weekly tasks of reading, spelling and maths and they can also choose a fun, family friendly task to be completed. 'Learning Log' homework will be collected in each Friday, to be shared in our weekly Dojo Show!



## Spellings

The children will receive weekly spellings. These will consist of some words with the same spelling pattern and also words that the children will need to know by the end of Year 3. Building on their phonic acquisition from KS1, every child will receive three spelling / phonic sessions per week adapted to their current needs.

Each Monday, a set of spellings will be posted on Class Dojo and brought home in their green spelling book. We will have investigated the spelling pattern / strategy in class and these will need to be learnt for the **spelling test on the Friday**.

In addition to this, any child who is still not secure with the spelling of the key words will practice these daily in class. A copy of your child's Key Word Test will be sent home in due course so you can see which of these words they are still struggling to spell. Any extra practice at home will really help them to secure these important words.

## Times Tables

A good knowledge of the times tables is a key skill every child needs. Children will be given a times table to learn and **tested on Friday**. In Y3 we have a system called 'Maths Ninja' where the children try to become a 'Grand Master Tables Ninja.' Every week, the children will sit a timed test (1min 20 seconds) to answer 16 mixed questions on a specific times tables. If they score 15 or 16 they achieve that ninja status and move to the next times tables.

To support their learning, the children will bring home a copy of the Maths Ninja sheet they are working on daily in class. Please encourage your child to complete this 4 times a week giving them a 10 minute time limit. Whilst at first, they may only complete a few questions, as the week progresses they should see their score increase.

## Equipment/Resources needed

Please remember to bring in your water bottle each day. They can be refilled during the lunch hour if needed. Book bags to be returned daily even if it is not your child's reading book exchange day – Staff will be listening to different children read throughout the week and at times, may use their reading book.

**Year 3 will have P.E. every Monday afternoon (led by Mr Davies) and Wednesday afternoon.** Children need to come to school wearing their PE kit on those days. Our PE Kit is a plain white T-shirt (no logo), plain black joggers/leggings/ shorts and trainers with a plain black hoodie (no logo). Please label all clothing, coats and shoes.

## Weekly Mass

On Tuesdays, different classes from our school attend the 9.15a.m. mass at our local parish church – St. Bernadette's. Year 3 children will attend mass on Tuesday 5th October. You are always very welcome to join us so please come along.

## Friends of St. Bernadette's (PTFA)

The PTFA are keen to recruit some new members. It would be fantastic to have a representative from all year groups. If you would like to get involved through planning and organising events, please speak to the class teacher. You might know another parent who would be really good and may need a bit of encouragement. Thank you for your support.

## Attendance

It is very important to your child's education they attend school and arrive on time. If there are any problems, Mrs. Speakman our Pastoral Manager will be happy to help. No holidays must be taken in term time.