

# Welcome to KS2!

We hope that this information will help you to feel prepared for the exciting transition from KS1 to KS2.

## Staff



In 3HE Mrs Hardman will be in class from Monday – Wednesday, and Mrs Evans will teach on Thursday and Friday.

In 3B Mrs Buckingham will be the class teacher.

## Beginning and End of the day

First of all, we know one of the biggest worries is what to do at the beginning and end of the day. We have met your children and have walked them through to the classrooms as though they were arriving in the morning, and explained that they will do the reverse at the end of school. We hope this reassures them.

For your information: In KS2, children enter through the left-hand door to the junior hall and make their own way to the classroom where they will be greeted by us. For the first couple of days, there will be an adult stationed mid-way to the classroom so that they can become confident with the route. To encourage independence, please leave children at the hall door first thing in morning.



At the end of the school day, children are collected from the left hand hall door at 3.15. We will ask the children to motion towards the adult picking them up so we know who they are going to. It is helpful for us if you wave to show them where you are.

## Contacting the teacher

The best way to contact us is via a message (either handwritten, via the office or on Class Dojo). We will endeavour to pick up messages and respond the same day where possible. However, if there is a sensitive or pressing issue that staff need to know, then please email the office / speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team on the door and they will pass the message on during morning registration.

## Timetable

**PE** will be taught twice a week - Days TBC. On those days, children should come to school wearing their PE kit all day. This allows more time for joining in activities. Our PE kit comprises of: • a school logo T-shirt in the colour of their house (red, blue, purple or green). • black shorts • trainers • plain black tracksuit - plain black zipped top / sweatshirt and plain black tracksuit joggers (this item is to be added to our school uniform shop, but can also be purchased from any supermarket/sports shops).

**Hair:** Hair which is longer than shoulder length must be tied back for PE days.

**Earrings:** Of particular note and in accordance with Local Authority Health and Safety guidance, it is no longer allowable for children to tape earrings for PE & games sessions. As staff are not permitted to remove earrings for children, please ensure your child can do this themselves or that earrings are not worn on PE days otherwise children will have to sit out of PE lessons. If you are planning to have your child's ears pierced, please ensure it is done at the beginning of the summer holidays, so it does not interfere with curriculum PE.)

**French** will start to be taught in Year 3, in addition to the subjects the children are used to being taught in KS1. We no longer teach a daily phonics lesson in Year 3 but focus on reading comprehension skills, spelling and handwriting.

## Reading books

Junior children have an individual reader and a school library book which they will be able to bring home. Choosing their own library book is a great opportunity to promote reading for pleasure. This will be changed once a week (or less often if they want to keep it a bit longer.) Choice is so important in this. – a vital reading skill. Both books will be brought home each day with the purple Reading Record book. Please ensure they are returned to their bags each night to avoid them getting lost or damaged. Feel free to write comments about their reading in this book. Please sign the reading record to say the child has read each time, and clearly indicate when the book is finished so that they can be changed.



At Friar's Grove, we encourage children to read every day. Children who read at least 4 times a week will receive a reward!

In KS2 the allocation of the individual reading books works in a slightly different way. Each half term, the children complete an Accelerated Reader, online, comprehension quiz (this can only be accessed in school). All children will then be allocated one of our Big Cat reading books chosen using their ZPDs. So, please don't be alarmed if they come home with different colour bands! We ask that children read their reading books 3 times before they change it – once to decode, a second time for fluency and a third time for comprehension. Please do not panic if they come home with something they can read easily, it will just mean that they need to work on their comprehension. Having a book which they can decode should help with this.

Once a book is finished, the children use Accelerated Reader quizzes to assess their understanding of what they have read (questions are based on that book). This is not a test and we encourage the children to refer to the book during the quiz. Children can change their book once they have completed the relevant quiz (there is no set changing day.)

For those not using Accelerated Reader (this will be the minority), they will continue to use the Big Cat phonics based book band they are currently accessing

Reading continues to be a life skill in KS2 and we would like to stress the importance of continuing to read with your child even though you may feel your child is a good enough reader, especially ask questions about the book. Allow your child to refer back to the book to answer questions. Ask about new words in the text, etc.

## Homework

Currently, the children bring home grammar homework and maths home work on a Friday. The maths and grammar will be linked to the lessons that have been taught in class that week. Homework should be returned by the following Thursday.

**Bags and lockers** - If you intend buying a school bag over the summer holiday, please be aware that we use lockers rather than pegs in year 3. These are not very big so a large sports type bag will not fit into them. A small rucksack is best.

### **Pencil Cases**

Your child will also need a simple pencil case, their own pencils, glue, ruler, coloured pencils, purple biro. **LATEX free rubbers only please** (allergy) Please avoid novelty stationary as it becomes a distraction.



### **Water bottles**

Your child will need his/her own named bottle in school every day, taken home daily, cleaned and refilled every evening.



### **Fruit/Veg Snacks**



Please provide a fruit/veg/healthy snack for breaktimes as government funding for this does not extend to KS2.

### **School Meals**

Free school lunches are also not offered in KS2, unless you have met the criteria for such support. A letter regarding this will have been sent via Studybugs.

### **Toys**

Please do not send in any toys (including fidget toys, cuddly toys football cards etc.) These tend to get lost which causes lots of distress.

### **Stone Age to Iron Age**

Our History project for the Autumn term focuses on the Stone Age to Iron Age. As part of this we have organised an exciting day in school where we are able to experience a little bit of what life would have been like. Please look out for the letter that will follow!

### **Finally...**

We are looking forward to working with you and your children very much and hope this information helps you and them settle into life in the KS2. Rest assured that we will be having detailed handover meetings with your child's Year 2 teacher, who will pass on any information relating to learning, SEND, medical or any other needs.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us via Class Dojo or the school office.

*With very best wishes,*

*Mrs Hardman, Mrs Evans and Mrs Buckingham.*