



Survival Guide for Year 3

Meet the Team...



Miss Jones



Miss Coveney



Mrs Clark



Mrs Ellis



Mrs Ades

Mrs McGoldrick will cover Bumblebees class when Miss Coveney has PPA and Supply cover will teach Dragonflies class.

Don't forget that our Parent Handbook can be found on the school website.

We are always here to help so please contact us if there is anything that you need to ask or are unsure about. It is difficult to catch us at the start of the day as we are busy settling the children into class but after school is much easier. We escort the children onto the playground in the afternoon unless we are running an after school club so that is often a good time to speak to us. For more important matters, an appointment can be made via the school office. office@godinton.kent.sch.uk or 01233

Welcome to Year 3!

Having now entered Key Stage 2 the children will be treated as 'juniors' and as such will be expected to become far more independent learners. We expect them to be responsible for their belongings, making sure that they have the right equipment for their daily tasks. We respect the children in our classes and expect them to show respect to all the adults and their peers that they encounter.

All we ask is that the children try their very best.

We hope that your child has a wonderful year with us and we very much look forward to working with you.

Our Exciting Year 3 Curriculum...

Have you ever wondered what the inside of the Earth looks like?

Did you ever want to see a volcano erupt?

Have you ever wondered what lurks in the sewer beneath London?

How would you escape a labyrinth if you were a Greek Hero?

These questions and many more will be answered as your child makes their way through this year's Learning Adventures!

Our school curriculum is taught through our 'Learning Adventure' approach which creates cross curricular links over the course of 2 terms, making learning more meaningful for the children. Each topic will have a 'Sensational Start' and an 'Explosive Ending' to enthuse and excite the children and to celebrate their achievements.

STAR week – 'Showing Tolerance and Respect' – is built into every term and centres around our school values. Whilst we embed these values into everyday school life, we also want to highlight different aspects which is done during this focus week. During this week, the children will complete their RE and PSHE work for the term and English work will relate directly to the term's STAR theme.

Details of the curriculum that your child will be studying during the academic year can be found on the school website. To locate this information simply go to the 'Curriculum' section and then select the relevant area. In this section you will find details about our topics and the areas that the children will be studying. This section of the website will be updated at the start of each new Learning Adventure.

Maths...

Maths lessons will be taught in class groups, using the Mastery approach that the school has adopted over the past two years. Maths mastery places greater emphasis on broadening the children's understanding and experiences of mathematics and provides them with a deeper knowledge of concepts which improves their ability to make mathematical links and connections and develops their reasoning and problem solving skills. We will work on maths fluency, written calculations methods and the recall of multiplication and division facts. Details of the year group curriculum for maths can be found on the school website.

English...

English lessons are taught as a whole class. We believe it is important to ensure that literacy skills are firmly embedded into other subjects such as science, history and geography and are therefore mostly recorded in our Learning Adventure books. Work will be differentiated as appropriate for the varying ability groups within the class, with challenge and support provided for all. The children should aim to produce their best writing at all times, regardless of what particular area of the curriculum they are working on.

Our New Homework Trail...

This year brings about some exciting changes to our approach to homework across the school. At the start of each term, the year group will be set a 'Homework Trail' which will last for the duration of each term. This trail includes weekly 'Base Camp' tasks, a menu of 'Trail' tasks which are all linked to the Learning Adventure topic, and an 'Extra Mile' Challenge. All Homework Trails will also be available to view on the school website so don't worry if you forget what to do. The choice of homework tasks all relate to work being taught in class and provide further practice and reinforcement of our Learning Adventure themes. Children are strongly encouraged to complete the tasks set but homework is not compulsory.

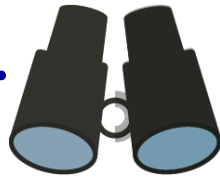
Regular reading, spelling and the retention of number facts and multiplication / division facts are essential in the development of English and Maths skills as they underpin many concepts. These tasks will form the 'Base Camp' activities which children are expected to complete on a weekly basis. 'Trail' tasks are a set of 9 tasks that the children can choose from, ensuring that the centre task has been completed—they cover a broad range of subjects and interests. The minimum expectation is that 3 tasks will be completed over a term in the children's homework books. Our new homework system will replace 'creative homework' that has operated in the school in previous years.

'Extra Mile' task – Children who 'go the extra mile' and complete 6 squares will receive an 'Extra Mile Sticker'. Any children who complete 3 'Extra Mile challenges' during the academic year, will take part in an end of term treat.

At the end of each term, each class will hold a 'Trail End Showcase' where children can share their homework and celebrate their hard work. Children only need to bring their homework books back into school on Trail End day.



Base Camp Tasks...



Mathletics—New for 2019 ...

Maths homework will continue to be set as an online activity each week, however as of Term 1 'MATHLETICS' will replace 'My Maths'. Within the first few weeks of term, all children will be given new log in details for their Mathletics accounts and will provide parents with details on how to access pupil accounts. Within their Mathletics website there is also an interactive section to help children with the recall of multiplication facts. The children can play in this section as much as they like. We hope that the children will enjoy this new website and find the tasks set and educational games to be more motivational and enjoyable to use.

Keep Practising Those Times Tables!

The ability to recall number facts at speed contributes greatly to many areas of mathematics. With confident recall, children are able to make greater links between facts e.g., If you know $4 \times 6 = 24$, you can quickly calculate $40 \times 6 = 240$ and $40 \times 60 = 2400$ or if $6+4 = 10$ then $60+40 = 100$. Knowledge of these facts also enables children to make links to money, fractions, decimals and percentages. Children are also more fluent with division facts as a result.

As of this year, the Government are introducing a statutory Multiplication Tables Check for children in Year 4, taking place in June 2020. Year 3 children will participate in the tables check when they are in Year 4. The expectation is that children can quickly recall all multiplication facts up to 12×12 . Regular practice of times table facts will help your child feel confident in recalling facts at speed and help with many areas of mathematics.

Spellings

Spelling and phonics is an important part of the curriculum at Godinton.

In year 3 all children will be focusing on phonics work, this will be a suitable phase from the Letters and Sounds scheme matched to the children's ability. As the year progresses some children may move onto other spelling rules and strategies whilst others might continue to develop their phonetic knowledge. A list of commonly used words that the children should be able to spell independently and use in their daily written work are in the back of your child's homework book. We will be learning words from the Year 2/3 spelling list throughout the year and there is an expectation that these will be spelt correctly or amended independently using word mats and dictionaries. To track your child's progress we may test informally and send focus word lists home to practise. Further information about spelling and phonics is available on the school website.

Read, Read, Read ... We want all our children to read as often as possible and to develop a life-long love of reading. Children who regularly read a wide range of texts at home, tend to demonstrate greater progress in reading, writing and spelling at school. So everything you do at home really can make a difference. Reading in the classroom will take place daily through a variety of reading activities. These may take the form of class, group or individual work. We would ask parents to hear their child read regularly and write a comment when they have listened to their child in their reading record book. **We expect the children to have both reading books and reading record books in school every day.** We would like children to change their reading book regularly but this will depend on the size of the book they take home.

Children also need to develop their inference and deduction skills; considering the mood of a character or his/her personality based on the evidence or clues within a text.

In school the children will take part in guided reading sessions each week, where they will work in a small group with the teacher. A comment about each child's reading will be written in the reading record by school staff following their reading sessions.

Content is important but so is presentation...

We expect all the children to take care with the presentation of their work and with their handwriting, both in their school books and in their homework books.

Children will be writing using pencil, but will use purple pen to edit longer pieces of written work. The children will also be using blue or black ink pens to rewrite these key pieces in their best handwriting after the editing work is finished. We expect the children to continue to develop the use of joined cursive handwriting if they are not joining their handwriting already. With continued neat presentation and confident spelling, the children can earn a pen licence to use ink pens for all their Learning adventure work.

Equipment and Resources...

All children are encouraged to be respectful of school resources. We provide basic equipment for all children in the classroom. Children may bring their own pencil cases to use, however these need be small enough to fit in their trays, and they must understand that it is their responsibility to take care of it.

We would discourage the children to bring in any toys as this will alleviate any unnecessary upset over lost or broken personal items. Please therefore leave these at home.

Children should bring their own drinks bottle to school, however this must only contain **WATER** and again is the responsibility of the child to ensure it is kept safe and taken home daily.

Other useful things to know...

P . E a n d G a m e s ...

Your child's PE kit should be in school every day. It is essential that PE kits consist of a coloured house t-shirt, black or navy shorts, plimsols for indoor PE. When the children are using gymnastic apparatus, they must be barefoot. Ideally, trainers should be worn for outdoor PE and a tracksuit is useful for outdoor PE in colder weather as we will only miss these sessions if the conditions are extreme. **All items should be fully named.** If your child wears earrings these must be taken out for PE. Any child, who cannot remove them, will not be allowed to participate in PE sessions. Children with long hair must be able to tie their hair back for P.E sessions - it is useful to leave a couple of hair bands in your child's PE bag. PE will take place on **Tuesday** for both classes, a further lesson is on for **Wednesday** for Dragonflies and **Thursday** for Bumblebees.

Out and About...

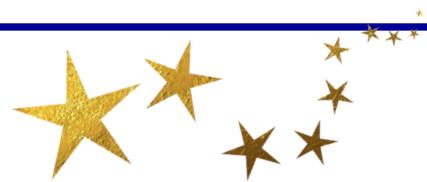
We are hoping to organise some exciting trips this year which should be finalised in due course.

Please ensure you budget approximately £20 per child, although this might differ slightly depending on this year's offers.

We are hoping these trips are inspirational and allow the children's learning to come alive!

We are always so proud to take out children from Godinton school and always receive praise from the public around their well-behaved and polite manner. We are sure this will continue this year.

STAR Award and House Points...



Celebration Assembly is on a Thursday and is a time when selected children's achievements are awarded with special certificates. A child from each class, who has demonstrated one or more of the key values of our school, is selected to receive the STAR Award and will be invited to a tea party with Miss Talbot.

We will be encouraging your child to earn as many house points as they can this year. Perhaps they will be one of our gold house point badge winners by the end of the year?

Birthdays for the coming week will also be celebrated during this assembly.

Healthy Snacks and Water...

Children may bring fruit as a snack for morning break from Monday to Thursday and can bring in a healthy snack (cheese, yoghurt etc.) on Friday. Please remember that no nut based products are allowed in school.

Children are allowed water to drink in their classrooms. This should be provided in a clear bottle, no larger than 500ml which has their name on. All water bottles must have a sports cap to help reduce spillages. Children are encouraged to access their water bottles throughout the day.