



Welcome to Seahunter

5th September, 2016

Dear parent/carer,

Welcome to Seahunter (Year 3). I hope you all had a great summer break. It has been lovely to meet the children again and hear about what they have been doing. They have all settled in well and we have spent time talking about class rules, routines etc. Attached to this letter is some useful information about life in Seahunter to help you ensure that your child is prepared for school.

For the first two days, parents may visit the classroom after school so that the children can show you their new room. From Wednesday, I expect all children to be dropped off in the quiet area or on the playground. They need to be independent; carrying their own letters, lunches, homework, fruit and bags into class and organising themselves. They may forget things from time to time, but we are happy to help so they can develop these skills. At home time they must be collected from the playground. Please do not wait in the quiet area at the end of the day. For the first few weeks, the children will be brought out by a member of staff.

Whilst I ask parents/carers not to come in to class to drop children off, that is not to say that you are not welcome. You are always very welcome if there is anything you need to discuss or any concerns that I should be aware of. Please come and tell me as soon as possible so that things can be dealt with quickly. A small problem that is not dealt with quickly can soon escalate. I will be available from 8.40 to 8.50am and 3.35 to 3.45pm every day for parents to drop in and chat or make an appointment for another time.

If you would like to start collecting information and help your child to prepare for the new term, our main topic will be 'Our Class Museum' (exploring how information about the past is discovered and covering aspects of British history from the stone age to the present day). We will also be studying our bones and joints in science for the first half term.

If you would like to help, either listening to readers or with general classroom tasks, please let me know. Any help is always gratefully received.

If you need to know anything else, please do not hesitate to ask.

We are looking forward to a busy and exciting year and I hope that your children have enjoyed their first day.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Rushworth



Seahunter Information

Year 3 2016 – 2017

Homework

Homework will be handed out on Friday, to be handed in the following Wednesday. If there is a problem or you have not seen your child's book, please let me know as soon as possible to allow adequate time to complete the task. Spare homework task sheets will also be hung outside the classroom on our notice board. Please ask for any relevant worksheets that are not there. Most tasks will be designed to be completed with some parental input, but must reflect your child's thinking and level of understanding. Any comments you wish to make about the task and how well your child was able to complete it are useful. Homework shouldn't be a battleground. If you are finding it a challenge (behaviourally), please come in and discuss it so that we can find a solution.

Spellings

Spellings will be handed out with homework and tested the following Friday. The test will be recorded in the back of the homework book.

Weekly Maths Assessments

Weekly Maths Assessments will be completed in school every week (from week 2) and sent home with homework books, so that the children can go through a few of the problems they need to work on for the next week (more details will be provided in the book they bring home).

Reading

Please try to ensure that your child reads every day, even if it is only a little. The children will be responsible for changing their own books at the start of school day, during lunchtime, in our class library time (Wednesday am) or at the end of the school day.

Art

We will be doing art at least once each week and will sometimes use messy materials. Your child can use a class apron/shirt but we have a limited supply so it would be helpful if they could bring in a painting shirt/apron to keep in a carrier bag on their peg.

P.E.

We will be doing P.E. 3 times each week as well as running on the other two days so **P.E. kit must be in school every day**. Kit should include a white t-shirt or polo shirt, black shorts and shoes suitable for outdoor games in a bag that will survive hanging in a busy cloakroom. You may also wish to include a separate navy blue jumper to keep uniform clean as well as black trousers when the weather gets cooler. Spare socks are also advisable, as they can become wet/muddy during tag rugby and cross country.

Uniform

Please ensure that all items are clearly labelled. Any jumpers lost during the day will be placed in our green lost property box just inside in the classroom.

Pencil Cases/Equipment

Everything that the children need will be provided so they do not need to bring anything. However, if they wish to bring a pencil case it must be of a size that easily fits in to their tray. All items must be initialled/named. If you wish to provide your child with their own equipment, the items we will use most commonly are a black pen (handwriting/rollerball or gel), a pencil, colouring pencils, a ruler, stick glue, scissors (rounded blades), an eraser, a sharpener and a highlighter. If your child has a pen licence they may bring their own black handwriting/rollerball/gel pen.

Fruit

Children may bring a fruit snack each day. On Friday, they may bring money for 'Snack Shack', which is run by Y5/6 pupils, selling cereal/breakfast bars as well as fruit based snacks. Each item is 25p.

Water Bottles

Please help your child to ensure that they have a drink bottle in school every day. They will be kept in boxes in class so that they can be transported collectively to playtimes and P.E. lessons. We will endeavour to send them home every Friday to be washed.

Behaviour

The behaviour system in class will be the same as it is across the school, following school guidelines. First a verbal warning will be given. If the behaviour persists, this will be followed by a yellow warning card. If it still persists, the child will issued a red card and sent to a neighbouring class for 10 minutes time out. On their return they must complete the task they had started, explain where they went wrong and what they will do differently next time. If a child persistently receives yellow/red cards or their behaviour is deemed particularly rude, disrespectful, hurtful or dangerous, they will spend the next lunchtime in the reflection room with a member of staff, following which they will explain where they went wrong and what they will do differently next time. Any behaviour that is persistent or concerning in some way will be reported to parents so that we can discuss strategies for addressing the issues raised.

Rewards

The focus of the merit reward system is on effort and attitude. Any exceptional effort made or exemplary attitude demonstrated regarding work will be acknowledged with a merit, recorded on a sticker chart. The children each have a sticker card and will work towards a series of personal school achievement awards; Bronze (25), Silver (50), Gold (75) and Platinum (100). Exemplary or exceptionally good behaviour will be acknowledged with house points, which the children collect for their houses; Atlantic (green), Pacific (red), Indian (yellow) and Arctic (blue). Within our class, we also have presentation point cards. The children collect ticks for presenting their work well and receive a merit for every 5 ticks. When they achieve 50 ticks, they also earn their pen licence and a pen to use for all written work.

Name Labelling

Please make sure that **ALL** items that your child owns are labelled clearly with their name. It is impossible to guarantee their safe return without labelling.

