Barrington Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) School

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Belonging Believing; **Together Succeeding**

Class 3 Curriculum - Autumn 2018

Dear Parents.

Welcome back after what I hope was a happy and enjoyable summer holiday. It is lovely to see the children again and I am incredibly excited to begin a new academic year with them. Your child will be supported this year by myself and the incredibly talented teaching assistants, Mrs Cambridge and Miss McCabe. As a team, our priority is to make sure your child comes into school excited and enthusiastic each day and we cannot wait to support them with new challenges and opportunities. As ever, your child needs the support of me and you to progress and I cannot stress enough how important a home-school relationship is to enable them to achieve. This year, Barrington Primary are adopting a whole school topic where children will be given endless opportunities to explore and discuss a key question. Through the question 'What is the greatest superpower?', your child will be learning about influential figures both past and present, exploring the power of the internet, conducting a local study by looking at the history of Barrington and many other exciting areas. This approach ensures children recognise the value of each subject they are learning about and helps them to understand they are learning about these areas to be able to discuss and debate the key question. It seeks to help children make connections between subjects, understand why they are learning about a particular concept/person/area and as a result receive a deeper understanding. The topic consistency throughout the school additionally promotes opportunities for children to relate to one another and continue topical discussion outside of the classroom. I hope this letter gives you a better idea of the term ahead but if you have any questions please don't hesitate to send me an email or come in for a chat.

English: Through English lessons, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar lessons (SPAG), and cross curricular lessons we aim to cover the following genres: Adventure stories, speeches, diary writing, Instructions, poetry, radio adverts and character descriptions. Writing is sometimes spontaneous and other types of writing may also happen when opportunity presents. Statutory words are tested at the end of Guided Reading sessions weekly and there will also be a 'word of the week' where children will be challenged to use the word in writing and conversation as much as possible. I will be sending home a copy of the year 3 and year 4 key statutory words. Please support me and your child by looking at these and noticing them in their reading books.

Mrs Avant and myself are also introducing 'Fun Writing Friday' this year where children will be able to explore, discuss and debate questions, statements and various concepts. These fortnightly sessions hope to promote a love of writing and provide your child with opportunities to feel passionate, inspired and empowered. These have been carefully designed by us to live up to their name and be 'fun'. We are very hopeful that these sessions will be a great success. For those of you whose children have been taught by me before, you will know the value I consider reading to have. Whilst I appreciate that life if busy, please make time for reading with your child at least 5 times a week. Your child will discuss their home reading book in 'book talk' sessions and is expected to be able to feedback likes, dislikes and questions about the book to peers and the supporting adult.

Spelling rules will be taught discreetly through writing sessions also.













<u>Maths</u>: This term we are focusing on number and place value, addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. Daily CLIC sessions will continue to revisit areas and apply learnt skills in multiple contexts. In Class 3, I want children to 'see' maths in all areas and so maths will be embedded in other subjects where possible. Please support your child with 'real life' maths and consider things like, cooking, time and money.

Maths lessons comprise Fluency, Reasoning and Problem Solving so look out for opportunities for your child to solve problems or to prove how they worked out an answer as this will help them in class. Explaining understanding and method is more important than just a correct answer.

Times tables will be tested weekly. Your child will be learning 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11 and 12 times tables. House points will be on offer for daily practice at home.

In <u>Science</u> we will be learning about forces and magnets, exploring whether science is in fact the greatest superpower!

This term's **RE** question asks 'What is it like to follow God?'. Your child will look at the story of Noah's Arc and how promises and agreements are made in the story. They are going to consider how similar promises and agreements are made in the wider world and the power of working together to keep promises and agreements.

Madame Sanders will continue teach Class 3 **Spanish** on a weekly basis.

<u>PE:</u> PE will be with Mr Herd on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please ensure your child has all they need for PE each week, especially if they do sports clubs in the week. We have a no tape policy for earrings. They need to be removed please.

Please ensure that your child has a named PE kit in school including tracksuit bottoms, top and a change of footwear for PE as well as indoor shorts and T-shirt. Occasionally due to weather or restrictions on use of the hall we have to change days so your child's PE kit needs to be in school at all times.

<u>Music:</u> We are incredibly lucky to have Mrs McGregor teaching a weekly music lesson where children will learn different superhero theme tunes.

Homework: As always, homework is a consolidation of class learning. If your child finds a homework task tricky, please come and tell me rather than completing it with them. It is vital I know which areas they cannot do and when homework is completed or strongly lead by parents, I cannot do this.

On Fridays your child will receive a Maths or English task to be completed (alternate weeks) to be given in on <u>Wednesdays</u>. (or before). Any homework that is not completed without an explanation will unfortunately have to be completed in PE. All homework should be completed in the homework book and in pencil.

There will be a topic homework menu to give the children a choice of activities related to the topic to be completed once a fortnight. This Autumn term, there will be revision spellings of year 2 words sent home for year 3s as well as some year 3 statutory words also. Year 4s will also be receiving weekly spellings to learn. These will be sent home Friday and should be returned for the following Wednesday like other homework.

<u>Growth Mindset and Resilience:</u> As a school, we are continuing to work on Growth Mindset. If you haven't had a chance to have a look already, please come and see our 'Learning Pit'. The display links to Growth Mindset and helps the children to remember that learning is a journey that may include feelings of uncertainty, confusion and worry. It intends to help children see that these feelings won't last and soon they will begin to understand and 'climb out' of the learning pit. It also stresses that it doesn't matter how long they stay at a certain point in the learning pit because we are all different.

<u>School Uniform</u>: Please ensure your child has appropriate school uniform every day. Thank you for helping us in this, the children are looking smarter and taking pride in their work as a result.

More information can be found on our school website, and we hope to share work from our class there too. Thank you again for your support and we hope your child and you enjoy this term's learning and activities.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Meredew, Mrs Cambridge and Miss McCabe bmeredew@barrington.cambs.sch.uk

Selection of End of year National Curriculum statements:

Reading:

Year 3:

Apply knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes to read aloud and to understand meaning of unfamiliar words. Discuss and record words and phrases that writers use to engage and impact on the reader eg. choice of verb. Make links between spellings, punctuation and grammar that has been taught.

Year 4:

Retrieve and record information by beginning to skim and scan (non fiction).

Infer meanings and justify them with evidence from the text eg. Inferring characters' feelings, thoughts, motives from their actions.

Read aloud with intonation, tone, volume to show awareness of characters' speech, punctuation and some grammatical features (eg. An embedded subordinate clause).

Writing:

Year 3:

I can spell commonly mis-spelt words, including many of those on the Year 3 / 4 word list (attached)

I can proof read to check for errors and suggest improvements to my own writing and that of others

I have legible, joined handwriting (with diagonal and horizontal strokes)

I can compose and rehearse sentences using soe rich vocabulary (adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions)

Year 4:

I can recognise and spell homophones and near homophones

I can use descriptive noun phrases for impact, including phrases which are expanded by adding modifying adjectives, nouns or preposition phrases eg One really hot summer's day, On the coarse sand, The biting cold wind etc I can proof read for errors in spelling and punctuation

I have legible, joined handwriting with greater consistency (with diagonal and horizontal strokes, parallel vertical strokes, appropriate length of ascenders and descenders)