



**St. Thomas's**  
CE Primary School

Kendal Green  
Kendal  
Cumbria  
LA9 5PP  
01539 737373

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 3! I hope you all had a wonderful summer. Your children have already made a great start to the year - thank you for all you have done to prepare them for the return to school and for ensuring they have all been here on time, every day. I am delighted to be working in Year 3 and am excited to be working alongside you and your child. This letter contains all the key information you need to know for the term ahead, but please don't hesitate to ask if you have any further questions.

I will be teaching the class all day on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays as well as Wednesday mornings. Mrs Alderson will be teaching Year 3 on Wednesday afternoons and Mrs Massara will be teaching on Thursdays (except for a PE lesson with Mrs Alderson in the afternoon).

### Curriculum

The children will have daily English and Maths lessons, with extra sessions covering grammar, spelling, handwriting and times tables. Our initial focus in Maths will be on place value, before we move on to addition and subtraction. In English, our first unit of work will be based on 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. Every child will be part of a small guided reading group, and there will also be a whole-class reading comprehension lesson during the week.

Our first topic in Science will be Keeping Healthy, during which we will learn about the human body (muscles, bones and movement). We will link this work to a Design Technology unit where we will plan, cook and review a healthy meal (with the help of our wonderful kitchen staff!). Our first theme is called Language, which has a History focus. We will investigate the development of language and writing from the Iron Age to modern day. Along the way we will find out about different ways of telling stories and the use of picture alphabets. In RE we will be thinking about what Christians teach about Hope - a perfect start to Year 3 as our class value for the whole year is also Hope! Mrs Massara will be teaching Spanish on Thursday afternoons.





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### Reading Challenge

The Reading Challenge that the children participated in during Year 2 continues in Year 3. Every time your child reads at home 5 times in a week they will receive a sticker. Once they have collected 5 stickers, they will receive a certificate and small prize. Your support and encouragement with this is vital, so please continue to listen to your child read at home and talk about what they have read. Children can record their own reading in their records too, but it would be helpful if you could sign these entries too.

### PE

There will be 2 PE lessons every week, both taught by Mrs Alderson. Lessons will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays and may be either indoor or outdoor. It is essential that the children have the correct PE kit in school at all times.

Just to remind you, our school PE kit is:

- Blue school PE T-shirt
- Navy PE shorts
- Navy jogging pants
- Blue school PE hoody
- Plimsolls for inside
- Trainers for outside PE

### School Meals

As you will be aware, now that your child is in Key Stage 2, they are no longer entitled to receive Universal Free School Meals. Children in KS2 may be entitled to Free School Meals, and this only takes a couple of minutes to check, so please ask at the office if you think this may apply to you. KS2 children also do not receive fruit or vegetables through school at break time. If you would like your child to have a morning snack, please send a piece of fruit or vegetables in with them.





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### Residential

I have booked a residential visit for Year 3 for July 2019. This is always an extremely exciting event for the class and I'm sure this year will be no exception. We will be spending 2 days/1 night at Great Tower, on the edge of Windermere. This is a Scout camp site with a large variety of activities available on-site. I am in the process of finalising the details and the coach travel so will soon be in a position to give you a lot more information. This will include the costs, which we will break down into instalments using a payment card. This system has worked well in previous years as we appreciate that paying for such a visit in one go can be tricky. I will also include other significant trips for Year 3 on this payment card.

### Home Learning

We have made some changes to the Home Learning that we set. I will send home a variety of Maths games and challenges this Friday. These will be tasks for your children to tackle over the next 3 weeks. After this, I will set some English tasks. Alongside these tasks, we also ask that you continue to support your child with learning spellings, times tables and with their reading. All home learning will be sent in one book, along with a checklist to show which tasks have been completed.

Learning times tables is vital for supporting other areas of learning in Maths. As a school we use an online programme called TimesTables RockStars. I will introduce the children to this in school and then provide them with a login so that they can access it from home. There are many other resources online that support learning times tables, but please ask me if you are not sure how best to help your child with this.





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### Important Dates

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September - Year 3 & 4 to the Westmorland Show

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September - Torchlight

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October - Individual photos

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October - Half Term starts

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October - School re-starts

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December - Term ends

I have attached a list of the Promises for Year 3 - a variety of activities and experiences that we will complete during this school year. As well as being a lot of fun, we believe it is important to provide as wide a range of experiences as possible during your child's time in school.

We always welcome parental support in school, in fact, we cannot manage without it very often! So please let me if there is anything you would like to help out with. Also, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any other questions or concerns. Many thanks for your support so far.

Nicola Wright

