

**Introduction**

Mrs Bruce works on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays Mrs Gurney works on Thursday and Friday. Mrs Kendall is our class TA.

This is our seventh year working together as a job share and our third year together in Year 3. Our job share is very successful. We communicate constantly and email/text most days to fill each other in on what is happening in class and to discuss pupil's progress/ any concerns we may have. We plan our lessons thoroughly so we know exactly where we are up to. Our literacy and our maths lessons are planned together so they follow on from each other. Mrs Bruce teaches science, topic, swimming, art, Spanish and handwriting. Mrs Gurney teaches RE, computing, music and PE. We will be learning recorders in music this year.

**Class routines**

In the morning, the children walk up the slope put their bags in their locker, hang up their coats and bring their reading records and water bottles into class. They will then be able to change their reading book if they need to. We always have early morning work ready on the tables or screen. We then call the register and go to collective worship. After worship, we have reading and English followed by playtime and then before lunch we have maths. After lunch, we have either topic, science, RE, PSHE, PE, music, Spanish or computing. We swim on Wednesday afternoons and have PE on Friday afternoons and full PE kit should be worn into school on both of these days (trainers are safer and more comfortable than plimsolls). Please also remove earrings on Tuesdays and Fridays.

**Curriculum**

Details of the work we will cover over the year can be found on the website and an overview of the work we cover each week will be emailed to you every Friday, we will also load it onto Seesaw and it can be found on the website.

**Expectations**

During Year 3 we aim for the children to become familiar with KS2 routines and timings. The play and lunch times are now later and the children do seem hungrier so you may want to provide them with some extra fruit/veg for break time - no wrappers. There is an expectation that they will become more independent with both work and managing things like changing reading books.

**Ways to help your child**

Please ensure that you support your child with their homework tasks and home reading and that they have swimming kit when needed.

**Homework**

Reading - Our expectation is that you listen to your children read at least 4 times a week and we cannot stress enough how enriching it is for you to read to your children and enjoy books together.

Maths and Spelling - We use TTRockstars for maths and Spelling shed for spelling homework tasks (we do also send a sheet home if this is easier). Our spellings change weekly and there will be a quiz on Mondays. TTRockstars is a

great resource to help to prepare children for the year 4 timetable check and is very intuitive so the more they use it the harder the tables become. We only focus on 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables in year 3.

**Reading**

Sign reading record

Read as often as possible

**Website**

Our website is updated regularly - if you have problems finding the location of important information (class overview/newsletters/dates/calendar) please let us know and we will show you.

**Uniform / PE kit**

Please ensure that your child wears the correct uniform and that it is all named. Trainers are not to be worn as school shoes but please do wear them for PE. A school hoodie must only be worn on PE days and a jumper, cardigan or fleece for school uniform days.

**Reward systems**

Our main rewards system will be whole class based. We are spending time to reteach and agree and consolidate with the children the expectations and routines. We will then let children know which rule we are focusing on so we can have a class treat when we have all achieved it. In KS2 children can also earn house points and the winning house is then announced each week during celebration assembly. Individually, children get Headteacher Awards and they are awarded for kindness, curiosity and confidence.

**Water in school**

Children should bring in fresh water everyday - the children have access to water when they need it and are encouraged to drink after playtime and lunchtime.

**Attendance**

Holidays will not be authorised.

If your child is unwell please phone the school and inform Mrs Taylor before 8.55am. If you do not report your child's absence Mrs Taylor will phone you.

**Home time collection**

Please inform us if someone else is picking your child up.

**Lunch boxes**

Please ensure that your child's lunch is healthy. Sweets, chocolate and fizzy drinks are not permitted as these can cause blood sugar hikes and drops which then affect your child's mood and focus.

**Seesaw**

We've both downloaded the Seesaw app to our phones and would encourage you do the same if you can. This is the quickest way we can answer any queries you may have.

**Issues / concerns**

If you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to contact us in the first instance and we will discuss your concerns with Mrs Higgins if necessary. If you want to meet with us we are always happy to have a quick chat at the end of the day or you can book an appointment with us. Alternatively, you can email us:

[victoria.bruce@barham.kent.sch.uk](mailto:victoria.bruce@barham.kent.sch.uk) [sally.gurney@barham.kent.sch.uk](mailto:sally.gurney@barham.kent.sch.uk)

It is normal for children to fall out / squabble -just like siblings have their moments so do the children at school - as parents this is difficult but it is a stage that children go through and often starts to happen in Year 2 and Year 3. We will help the children to deal with this in school.

**On-line safety**

Computers and tablets are a fantastic tool for your children and can enhance learning, social skills, creativity and play time. There are risks involved but these can be minimised with some clear rules and expectations. Chat to your children about their apps and games and what they do on them - they love to talk about them. We teach children in school that if they come across anything that doesn't feel right (scares, upsets or unsettles them) they should let us know. We do not have any consequences for your children here as we want them to feel comfortable to tell us anything. We always supervise children on-line in school and would suggest that at home children only go on-line when they are with you/in the same room. We have had instances where children have been exposed to some age inappropriate material and these have always been when children have been unsupervised and in their bedrooms on-line. If it affects a child within school (even if it's not during school time) we will deal with it in school.

We don't expect children to have phones but if they do bring one into school it **MUST** be turned off and handed in to the office before they come to class. They can then collect them from the office at home time.