

YEAR 2 to 3 TRANSITION - GUIDE FOR PARENTS, WRITTEN BY PARENTS

It is a very exciting time for the children moving from Infants to Juniors and they get support and advice on the transition from the school. For the parents, however, it is a bit trickier so we have developed a little Transition Guide for Parents, from Parents who have experienced this transition, which may help you ease into Junior life next term and help you support your child from the beginning of Year 3.

THE BASICS:

Junior Set up

The Juniors are made up of 3 classes in the Lower Juniors and 3 classes in the Upper Junior. We will be focussing only on the life of the *Lower Juniors*.

Lower Juniors are a mix of Year 3 and Year 4. All subjects are taught in mixed year groups, except for maths lessons, where they will be in a class of their own year group.

Lower Junior Teachers:

- Mrs Jones/Mrs Weller
- Mrs Hague
- Mrs Hurst /Mrs Tucker

Lower Junior Equipment

- **Rucksacks:** Year 3 children can bring in a rucksack to school and no longer need the book bags. The Yellow rucksacks you see round the school are available from the School office at a discount price of £4.50. You do not, however have to a St Mary's rucksack but it should be something that the children can carry on their own and that holds a water bottle, A4 books, pencil case, reading books and homework books, their jumper and anything else they need to bring home.
- **Pencil Case:** They must bring in a small see-through pencil case with pencils; colouring in pencils, rubber, sharpener and glue. Sadly, due to budget restraints, school are no longer able to provide these items.
- **Pens** are not used until later in the year when the children are assessed on handwriting development.
- **Water Bottle**, (reusable) PE kit and all uniform: as normal
Do make sure your child can remove their earrings themselves, or alternatively remove them at home on PE days.
- **Snacks/Fruit:** Juniors are no longer provided with fruit at snack time. Feel free to provide your child with a piece of fruit, vegetables or another healthy snack - NO SWEETS, CHOCOLATES OR NUTS.

**PLEASE ENSURE
EVERYTHING IS
CLEARLY LABELLED
WITH
YOUR CHILD'S NAME.**

- **Lunches:** Once the children reach Juniors they are no longer eligible for the free lunches provided by the Government so you will need to pay for lunches or provide a packed lunch.
- **School Books:** Children will receive a Homework diary where they are required to write down the homework for the week. Homework is written on a whiteboard in each class and **it is the responsibility of the children to copy this to their homework diary**. They will also have their yellow Reading Record book, reading books,, Literacy Homework A4 book and “My Maths” online homework. Parents are asked for a contribution to the cost of the Maths subscription.
- **Payments:** The easiest way to pay for anything to do with school (lunches, trips, building fund etc.) is online. Please get details from the office, if this not already set up for you.

Rewards / Detention

Juniors continue to receive merits, stars and house points. Additionally, they can earn mindset points which are given for positive learning behaviours. As in year 2, they can be chosen by their peers to be the ‘Light’ during class worship which is always a real honour. Lower juniors manage their own class worship themselves once a week in groups of 4 and the ‘Light’ at these worships is an individual chosen specifically by their peers.

Detentions are given generally for missing homework; reflection time is given at lunch time for repeated disruptive behaviour.

Homework

The major ‘shock’ for the majority of Year 2 parents moving to Year 3 is the level of homework. This IS manageable but does require parental support and input!

Your child would have been used to the everyday reading and perhaps bringing in a few items once or twice a term to support a project they are working on in Year 2.

In Year 3 the homework is 4 fold and includes:

- Maths – This is completed online and via the “MY Maths” subscription.
- English - they receive a English book where each week they need to complete a Comprehension task of up to 18 questions, spellings and occasionally handwriting practice
- Reading every day
- Learning tables – every day

Exercise books/tasks for the next week’s homework are given out on a **Friday** - you may want to make a start on homework on the weekend or at least you can ensure the books are in the rucksacks for the next week’s homework.

Homework must be handed back in by Thursday.

The most important thing you can do for your children in Year 3 is BE INVOLVED:

- Parents are asked to sign the Homework diary on a Thursday, brought into school on Friday.
- Parents are asked to sign the reading record every day (and at least once at the weekend)
Note: This is so that we know that you have seen your child's homework, and to know that they have done the homework to the best of their ability.
- ***It is the child's responsibility to write down their homework; the parents' responsibility to ensure it is done in time***

TIPS FROM A YEAR 3 PARENT

- **SIGN YOUR CHILD'S READING BOOK EVERYDAY** - if not your child may have to read at lunch time for 10 minutes
- **SIGN YOUR CHILD'S HOMEWORK BOOK EVERY WEEK** – as above.
- Encourage your child to use their homework diary. Get them in the habit of writing in the homework diary and showing/telling you what their homework is for the week
- Ask your child every day what homework they have for that day and when it is due
- **GET IN THE HABIT OF DOING HOMEWORK** - you may need to consolidate your homework over 2 days instead of a week due to after school commitments; you may like to try to do some over the weekend; you may need to do a little bit every day or may have more time in the mornings - it depends on your child and your own circumstances but it is best to get into a habit for both you and your child rather than rushing.
- Ensure your child hands in their homework in time to avoid potential detention.

TIPS FROM A YEAR 3 CHILD

- Make sure your writing is neat or you will have to start all over again
- Detention is the worst; getting stars or being the light is the best
- Keep quiet during line up time/when the whistle blows and during class
- Remember to ask your parents to sign your homework diary
- Remind your parents to sign your reading book
- Do your homework in time
- Enjoy your work and never give up!

We hope this information is useful to you as we near the end of the term. Good luck to you and your child moving into Juniors next term; have a great Summer and if you ever have any queries please talk to your child's class teacher or teaching assistant.