

### **Dear Year 3 parents**

Welcome to an exciting first year in Key Stage Two. Our initial focus will be ensuring that all the children are happily back in school after an exceptional time away. Although all our children will have had a different experience over the last few months, our priority will be to establish routines and focus once again upon the enjoyment of learning. To do this, our topic this half term is 'Ancient Civilizations', specifically the earliest cultures of The Indus Valley, Shang Dynasty China, Ancient Egypt and Sumer.

### **Dates for your diary**

*11th September.* Roald Dahl Day.

*15th October.* Individual School Photographs.

*22nd October.* School closes for half term.

*2nd November* School reopens.

### **Physical Education**

Children need their PE kits on Wednesdays for gymnastics when they will be working towards British Association of Gymnastics Awards. Games takes place every Thursday afternoon led by Mrs Buchanan and coaches from Progressive Sports. There are **no** swimming lessons until the start of the Summer Term. Ideally once they are brought into school, PE kits should stay in school until the half term break. A PE kit consists of trainers, white t shirt, black shorts, black sweat pants and top. All of this in the same bag.

### **Spanish**

As an introduction to this language the children will learn to meet and greet in Spanish and ask and answer simple questions e.g. '¿cómo estás', '¿cómo te llamas?' and '¿cuantos años tienes?'.

### **Science**

'Light' is our science topic. The children will learn how they see things and how light travels in straight lines. They will carry out an investigation into how the length and position of a shadow changes throughout the day. As the evenings darken, we will look at reflective and fluorescent clothing and its importance in keeping pedestrians and cyclists safe.

## **Ancient Civilizations; What does it mean to be civilized?**

### **Mathematics**

Children start the year by reading and writing number up to 1000 and partitioning them in different ways, for example into hundreds, tens and ones. We then look at mental and informal written methods to add and subtract. Children should already know their 2, 5 and 10 times table facts. By the end of Year 3 the children should know these together with the 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

### **English**

We spend a large part of the term learning about various aspects of English through the work of Roald Dahl, undoubtedly the world's most famous children's author. The children will read biographies of his life and how this influenced his writing before looking at extracts from his novels and writing new chapters and episodes of their own. We will celebrate Roald Dahl day with some special activities across the Year group.

### **History and Design Technology**

This topic enables us to look at the technologies that lifted humans from a simple hunter gatherer lifestyle to that of civilized societies. Cities were built from mud bricks so we will make bricks of our own. Shadufs lifted water so that land could be irrigated. We will make models of these and wheeled chariots that were used to transport ancient warriors. The children will make copies of Clay Turtles used by Shang dynasty Chinese to tell fortunes. We aim to create a non-fiction book to showcase some of the learning about these ancient worlds.

### **Computing**

LOGO is a computing language that the children will be introduced to through the use of 2GO and LOGO (available on Purplemash) and the use of floor robots or Probots.