



Monday 5th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a fantastic Christmas break and you managed to get some rest before returning to school for the new year of exciting learning. It has been a delight to teach Year 3 so far and I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing each child grow on their learning journey.

Learning Jigsaw

For information about what we are learning in school this half term, please take a look at the Learning Jigsaw. This document will give you an overview of what we will be learning in each of the subjects. Our topic this half term is Volcanoes, which we will be exploring in our Geography lessons, and Rocks which will be learning all about in Science lessons.

PE

This half term, PE will take place on Friday. Please ensure that your child arrives at school in the correct school PE kit. We will be learning dance this half term which will take place indoors in the hall.

Home Reading

In Year 3, reading at home is highly important. Reading at home regularly means children are better prepared for the academic demands of our lessons in school. It is important that children are reading at home a minimum of 4 times a week. When you get a chance, please check how many home reads have been logged this year on Boom Reader. At this point in the year, your child should have read around 50 times. Thank you to those of you who regularly engage with this; it really does make such a difference! Your child's log in details remain the same but if you require another copy of these, please let me know.

Spellings

It is important to practise spellings little and often – it helps with so many different areas of the curriculum and improves children's confidence recording their learning. Your child should be very familiar with their Graffiti Spelling book which should be brought between home and school daily. In these books, you will find the weekly homework sheets which provide you with the list of focus spellings which will be tested regularly in class.

TTRockstars

By the end of Year 4, children should be able to recall all times table from 2s – 12s by the end of Year 4. A sound times table knowledge support children in their Maths lessons and in everyday life. Engaging in 10 minutes per week on the Times Table Rockstars (TTR) program reinforces children's recall of tables and supports them in learning any that they do not know yet. If children in Year 5 or Year 6 have not 'gone green' on their TTR chart, it is recommended that they practise for 5-10 minutes daily to support them in catching up. We see that children who have a secure times table knowledge tend to find the transition to high school maths far easier.

NumBots

Numbots is a sister program to Times Table Rockstars. It is aimed at supporting children in developing number recognition and addition and subtraction skills. We aim for all children to complete this program by

the end of Year 2. This supports their mental arithmetic skills. Children have time in school to access their Numbot account but engaging with this at home too supports children greatly.

Morning Snacks

All children have time to eat a piece of fruit or veg and have a drink of milk or water during morning break. Please ensure that the only snack sent in for breaktime is a piece of fruit or veg. Milk, provided by school, will need to be ordered and paid for in advance - please contact the admin office if you wish for your child to have milk. All children need to bring their own named water bottle to school each day to keep themselves hydrated.



Belongings

Please ensure that all your child's belongings are clearly labelled: drinks bottles, lunchboxes, jumpers and hoodies. This makes it far easier to reunite children with their items should they leave them somewhere around school. Your help with this is greatly appreciated.

Getting in touch

Thank you for all of your support so far. If you ever have any queries, questions or messages, please feel free to email me at cdonald@kingstoneacademy.co.uk If there is anything that you would like to discuss face to face, please email me so that we can arrange a convenient time. News about what is going on in school will also continue be shared on the school website and Facebook pages.

I look forward to welcoming the children back soon.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CD', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Cherry Donald
Year 3 Class Teacher