



Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all having an enjoyable and restful half term break! As always, we have an action-packed half term coming up. We will be delving into the lives of the Ancient Egyptians, exploring how forces and magnets work in Science and, as you already know, we will be benefiting from weekly swimming lessons throughout the half term. I am also excited to let you know that the Year 3 children will be having weekly ukulele lessons with an external teacher. These lessons will continue to the end of the academic year.

### **Swimming**

A letter was sent home before the break explaining the arrangements for swimming. Thank you to everyone for sending in your slips so promptly. I know lots of the children are very excited to get started! Swimming is on a Wednesday, starting next week (26<sup>th</sup> February) and finishing on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Children should come to school in their PE kit on a Wednesday. Children will need to wear school uniform every other day. Please do contact me if you have any questions about arrangements for swimming.

### **Seesaw**

I will continue to post updates on Seesaw this term, so please do keep checking back. Please let me know if you have any problems accessing it or if you would like login details printing again. As always, please also use Seesaw to send in any home learning or further research the children have completed - it's always fantastic for the children to be able to share what they have been doing out of school. A Home Learning Menu will be uploaded shortly, but of course children are always welcome to complete any other learning related to our topics or tasks from a previous half term.

### **Times Table Rockstars**

Year 3 have made fantastic progress with Times Table Rock Stars this year and I was so pleased that this was recognised by winning the trophy twice in a row - well done, Year 3! In class, we have been working on consolidating our 2, 5, and 10 times tables. We will be learning the 3, 4 and 8 times tables over the coming weeks. Please encourage children to spend some time on TTR at home. It is an excellent way to increase their fluency and improve their skills. If you have any difficulties accessing TTRS, please let me know.

## **Spelling**

Please continue to encourage children to use their graffiti spelling books to learn their spellings at home. These books should come home each day and return to school each morning. We are working to build on our knowledge of Key Stage 2 spellings, whilst also consolidating some patterns and rules from previous years.

## **Home Reading**

Having done so well on Times Table Rockstars last term, this term I am going to be particularly encouraging engagement with BoomReader. It is a fantastic way for the children to share their reading with us and keep a record of how much they have read. Please make sure to continue logging reading as often as you are able. At this stage in the year, we would like children to be reading 4-5 times a week at home as this is one of the best ways to improve their reading fluency and expression. Just reading 2-3 pages for 5-10 minutes each night is more than adequate and enough to help your child progress. As always, please let me know if you have any problems accessing or using BoomReader.

## **Coats and water-bottles**

We enjoy getting outside in all weathers to get some fresh air and have a run around. Please could you make sure that your child continues to bring a named coat (preferably waterproof) to school each day so that we can continue to enjoy playtimes, whatever the weather. Please also make sure your child brings a water bottle to school so that they can keep hydrated.

I will continue to be in contact with you all throughout the term, but if there is anything I can help with, please send me an email or catch me at pick-up. My email address is [tcoutts@kingstoneacademy.co.uk](mailto:tcoutts@kingstoneacademy.co.uk). If you would ever like a more formal conversation, please let me know and we can arrange an appropriate time.

Many thanks for your continued support.



Tim Coutts  
Year 3 Class Teacher