

Monday 22nd July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Preparation for Year 3 and Year 4 September 2024

We hope you have a relaxed, enjoyable summer holiday and that you are looking forward to the new academic year. We have plenty of exciting lessons, days and events coming up which we know the children will love.

For the start of the school year, we thought it would be useful to share key information for the term.

Arrival Arrangements

Gates open at 8.30am and **all children must be in school by 8.38am**, ready to be in class for registration at 8.40am. Please say goodbye to your child at the school gate and children will then enter and go directly to their own classes independently.

On Tuesday 3rd September only, for children to become familiar with the easiest route to their classroom, teachers will be on the playground to meet their class and take children inside. There will also be additional adults to support children as they enter. Please say goodbye to your child at the gate.

On Tuesday 3rd September only, children in Year 3 can arrive at 8.25am, where their child's class teacher will meet them separately before other children arrive.

Curriculum

Curriculum overviews and knowledge organisers will be shared with you by the end of this summer term to inform you about what your child will be learning in the Autumn term. Additionally, you should have received a curriculum summer home learning pack. We hope children will enjoy completing this and class teachers are looking forward to seeing their work at the start of the term.

Home Learning

Home Learning is to be accessed via Seesaw and will follow the schedule below. In the first week of term, children will stick their Seesaw login details into the front of their white reading diary. Please contact your child's class teacher if you are having difficulty accessing Seesaw or require the password resetting. We appreciate that some families may not have access to a device that supports Seesaw, so please contact the office who can support with accessing a device or providing the home learning in an alternative form.

Y3 and 4	Reading	Spellings	Maths
Monday	Reading 20 mins	Spelling Test New Spellings	Maths set (due in on following Monday)
Tuesday	Reading 20 mins	Spelling Practice	Timestable Rockstars
Wednesday	Reading 20 mins	Spelling Practice	Timestable Rockstars
Thursday	Reading 20 mins	Spelling Practice	Timestable Rockstars
Friday	Reading 20 mins Hand Reading Diary in	Spelling Practice	Timestable Rockstars

Maths Home Learning

It is important for your child to practise their times tables frequently as these will be used almost daily and are essential to be able to access the maths curriculum. During the Summer Term of Year 4, children will also complete a statutory multiplication check where children will need to demonstrate their fluency with recalling the times tables up to 12 x 12. More details will be provided to Year 4 parents during the Autumn Term. We subscribe to Timestable Rock Stars, which is an excellent piece of software that allows your child to learn, practise and apply their times tables. Your child's Timestable Rock Stars log in will be provided in the first week of term in the front of their white reading record.

One Maths home learning task will be set on Seesaw each week and this is to be completed in your child's maths home learning book. Each week, the questions will be set on a **Monday and will be due in on the following Monday** which gives the children a whole week to complete the task.

The task will consist of five questions which will usually be related to previous learning or current maths learning and may require written or mental methods to solve. Your child will be given the opportunity to share and discuss their answers with their peers the day the work is due and this will include whether or not efficient methods of calculation were used. Your child should spend no longer than 15 minutes on this task, if they exceed this time, please inform their class teacher.

The tasks from Seesaw do not need to be printed and the squares in their book allow them to layout their work clearly and precisely. They should put the date the work is set at the top of the page and write the question number beside their workings.

English Home Learning

Reading

Reading is essential for life and we know that a child's ability to read fluently, and their vocabulary development, directly correlates to future life success. Your child is expected to read daily in line with the home learning timetable. It is expected that reading diaries are in school every day to ensure your child's class teacher can monitor the amount of reading at home; adults in school will also record any reading messages and targets in them. Even if your child is a confident, fluent reader, it is beneficial to listen to your child read aloud wherever possible, discussing the text and asking and answering comprehension questions to expand on their vocabulary and understanding of texts. In the reading diary next year, there will be questions in the front of the reading diary along with a table to support with the development of fluent reading.

Spellings

Spellings lists and related home learning tasks will be given out on a **Monday and tested the following Monday**. During the week, your child will be given opportunities to investigate the spelling patterns and strategies and apply them to their writing through a variety of activities. The test on a Monday may consist of other words that also follow the given rule/strategy for the week, enabling your child to apply it to new words.

Reading books

We will assess your child's reading fluency and comprehension in the first few weeks of term. This assessment may mean that your child changes book band level, or returns to book bands, if necessary, to boost their reading skills. This assessment will be indicated in their reading record. This is a normal part of children's development and reading at home daily will really help advance your child's comprehension, fluency and breadth of reading. Please note, our reading scheme is different to that of the infant school, so colour bands will not correlate.

Library

All children will be able to select one book from the school library or, if they are a free reader, they may select two. Each class will have a dedicated library slot each week, however children will be encouraged to change their book whenever they have finished, throughout the week at an appropriate time in the school day.

Class Reading

Each class also have 6 core reading texts each term covering a range of genres, which children will be encouraged to read both in school and at home. These books have been carefully selected, linking to wider curriculum themes which are age appropriate and promote a breadth of reading. Class teachers will launch these books in class libraries in the first week of term (these texts are available to view on the school website).

Handwriting Awards

Children's handwriting will progress and develop over time. Your child's class teacher will teach a joined, fluent script, in line with the Nelson handwriting scheme before then assessing children for a handwriting award. Pens are awarded in line with our handwriting policy which is available on the school website.

Stationery

We will provide all of the stationery and equipment your child will need at school. We kindly request that your child does not bring in a pencil case or stationery of their own.

Uniform

Children are expected to wear school uniform in line with our School Uniform Policy, which can be accessed under the 'Parent' tab on our school website and outlined below:

All children are required to wear an appropriate combination of the following clothing:

- White formal long sleeve shirt or white formal short sleeve shirt
- School tie in the appropriate school house colour
- Grey school trousers **or** grey school skirt **or** grey school pinafore **or** grey school shorts
- Black, grey or white socks **or** grey tights
- Black formal school shoes (trainers – even if they are black - are not appropriate)
- Outerwear such as a navy jumper, cardigan or blazer must bear the Hook Junior School logo

Please ensure that all items of uniform are clearly named.

PE

Children will have PE lessons twice a week: one outdoor and one indoor session in the Autumn term. Children will come to school in their PE kit on their designated PE days outlined in the table below. Please note that these days may be different for individual classes within each year group and will apply for the first half term only. This is due to staffing and timetabling. PE kit should remain in line with the School Uniform Policy, which can be found in and is outlined below:

All children are required to wear an appropriate combination of the following PE kit:

- White short-sleeved polo shirt bearing the Hook Junior School logo in the appropriate house colour
- Navy shorts or skort bearing the Hook Junior School logo or navy leggings
- White sports socks
- Trainers (black, grey or navy)
- Navy tracksuit, formed of navy top and bottoms, each bearing the Hook Junior School logo may be worn for outside activities during the winter months.

Please be aware that the following items **do not** form part of the school PE uniform and **must not** be worn for PE and Sport:

- Sports shirts or sportswear that is not part of the PE uniform
- Any shirt bearing a logo, brand or other visual or graphical element
- Any shorts bearing a logo, brand or other visual or graphical element
- Trainers that are brightly coloured or with studded boots

	3ES	3HR	3CT	3BR
Indoor PE	Friday	Friday	Friday	Friday
Outdoor PE	Tuesday	Monday	Tuesday	Monday
	4AS	4CF	4GG	4BK
Indoor PE	Thursday	Thursday	Thursday	Thursday
Outdoor PE	Tuesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Friday

PE will commence on Wednesday 4th September, so that children all wear their full school uniform on the first day of term.

Wellington boots for breaktime and lunchtime

We are fortunate to have excellent school grounds for children to enjoy. To utilise the grounds and field space, at breaktime and lunchtime children will be able to play on the field if they have wellington boots in school. Please provide your child with a named pair of wellington boots that will be stored on racks outside of the classrooms for them to change into for playtimes should they wish.

Home-School Communication

We value the importance of a strong home-school communication to benefit the learning and well-being of your child. Please continue to contact your child's class teacher via Seesaw or speak to your child's class teacher on the playground at the end of the day. We do however

appreciate there may be situations where this is not appropriate or practical therefore, please phone/email the office to pass the message on or write a note to your child's class teacher.

Learning consultations in the Autumn term will be on Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th October between 3.30-6.30pm.

Key Dates

Please continue to check the key dates at the back of the school newsletter and on the calendar on the school website. Here you will find dates of learning events, trips and visitors for the Autumn term (and beyond). We have scheduled our inset days, sports day and other key events for the academic year to support with organising your work schedules.

If you wish to discuss any of the information above or have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. We are looking forward to working with your children and thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs N. Bailey
Deputy Headteacher