



Welcome to Year 3!

Introduction

Hello and welcome to Year 3 at Wessex Gardens!



We are Ms Undre and Miss Pereira
and we teach Hazel Class.

We are Mrs Atanassova and Ms Mayer
and we teach Cedar Class.

We work with Heiro, who is the teaching
assistant for Years 3 and 4 and Annie, who
provides targeted learning support.

We are very pleased to welcome you and your child on-board and we are really looking forward to a fantastic year.

If you have any questions after receiving this information and reading the attachments on the website, please get in touch with us by contacting the school office, sending in a note with your child, or approaching us during the pick-up times after school. We will be more than happy to help.

What's new for Year 3?



Year 3 is the first year of Key Stage 2 and your child is now part of the Juniors. This means they will be playing alongside Years 4, 5 and 6 in the Junior playground, where there is a lot more space. It also means they will no longer be provided with free pieces of fruit, so please feel free to send some fruit in for break times.

In English, your child will continue to work on the spelling patterns they have begun in previous years, but this year there is less of a focus on phonics and more focus on understanding and learning the spelling rules. In writing, they will focus on creativity and writing styles, so looking at settings, language style, and character within their writing. In Reading, the focus turns to reading comprehension of texts with different lengths, contexts and styles, rather than decoding and fluency.

Children in Year 3 continue to build on their times tables recall. This will really support their mathematical fluency and equip them to be able to carry out calculations and solve problems with ease.

At home, you can help your child secure their times tables and related division facts, through visually representing multiplication (for example, you can look at a carton of eggs to show that $2 \times 3 = 6$ or $2 \times 6 = 12$). You can test them in the times tables that they are working on, listen to times tables songs and allow them to play times tables games online.

What equipment do children need?



In school, we provide exercise books, pencils, pens, rulers, rubbers, sharpeners and colouring equipment. Children can borrow books from the class library, choosing from a wide range of genres.

Your child will need a PE kit (they can come dressed in it on PE days) and a swimming kit. It is really important to label each bit of your child's kit and their uniform with their name, to avoid lost items- which can be costly.

The full uniform requirement can be found on the website, under the Parent Zone tab.

Every child should have some basic equipment at home, such as a pencil, ruler, rubber and sharpener. Please speak to us if you need help with getting there resources.

Home learning



Home learning is set for children weekly. To build good habits for home learning beyond primary school, you can support your child to complete the work set in chunks, rather than all at once, which can be overwhelming.

Research shows that a designated space for learning at home can greatly improve the formation of good home-learning habits, so consider a suitable space with your child.

In the unlikely event that we enter another lockdown, we will switch over to Google Classroom and deliver learning via this portal. If you have any problems with passwords, access to an electronic device or understanding the online learning, please get in touch as soon as possible.

Online safety



The Internet can be a very useful resource for learning, keeping in touch with friends and family and for entertainment.

However, there are aspects of Internet use by children that can be concerning. Excessive or inappropriate internet use can interfere with children's learning and development. It is all of our duty as parents, carers and school to support children's safe internet use both in school and at home. Safety can mean many different things, for e.g:

- Not sharing personal information
- Not accessing inappropriate content
- Not developing online relationships with people who are not known to them
- Not overusing devices
- Not losing on sleep

If you feel like your child is affected in any way by their online use, please get in touch with us, as we can help.

These issues are widespread in the age of technology that we live in and often our children are more knowledgeable than their parents. Do not be afraid to approach school, no matter how embarrassing you may think it seems – we can promise you that whatever may be the issue you are having to deal with, you will not be the only one! It is best to talk through any issues as soon as they arise.

Online safety



We will be sharing more helpful information with you throughout the year, but for now, here is a quick checklist for you to use:

- Are you aware of the length of time your child spends online?
- Do you know how to set parental controls on the devices that your child has access to?
- Do you know how to check the browsing history on the devices which your child uses?
- Are you aware of the reason for the Age Rating on any games that your child plays on a console, such as Playstation, Xbox?
- Do you feel that you have the skills to deal with your child's reaction when they are told they cannot play a particular unsuitable game or spend as much time online as they want?

[Do contact us if you need any support with the above.](#)

Communication and Working in Partnership



Children do best when there is a strong partnership between home and school.

If there is ever a time that you or your child are unclear about something, please let us know. It is best to deal with small queries when they arise, rather than letting things build up into big worries.

We are here to help 😊

Thank you



We are very excited to be working with you and your child this year.

Please have a look at some of the other helpful information on our Year Page.