



# Widmer End Community Combined School and Pre-School

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6th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to a new academic year. We hope you have had a lovely restful summer. We are very much looking forward to the year ahead and to getting to know your children and you.

Year 3 is an exciting year and the start of a new key stage. We have a very busy and varied curriculum this year which will provide a wide variety of learning opportunities both in and out of the classroom. We are incredibly lucky to be able to continue our Forest School Provision later in the year along with class trips to further enhance their learning experience. Details will follow during the meet the teacher evening and letters will be sent in advance.

Year 3 is a time when your child can really begin to develop the skills they have begun to nurture throughout their school journey thus far. Children have the opportunity to interact with their learning in a wide variety of ways, stimulating and motivating their thinking and natural curiosity. Each child is expected to engage each day in a calm, respectful and positive manner and to indulge in the many learning opportunities provided. This attitude is supported through a range of positive motivators and behaviour management systems. We set high expectations regarding home learning, preparedness and attitude to learning, so please read on so you and your child can understand, and be fully equipped to fulfil those expectations:

## **HOME LEARNING**

The expectation for home learning grows in Year 3. However we really do not want this to become a battleground for you and your children! Children should spend a minimum of 30 minutes per week on homework plus a minimum of 3 times a week reading. The approach will be further explained at the 'meet the teacher evening'. If you have any concerns about the completion of homework please just come and talk to us and we will find a solution together. Please can you make sure you have checked and signed your child's planner before it is handed in every Monday.

### **Home learning timetable:**

Monday - ALL homework and planners handed in for checking. Spelling test. Library books in. Reading books changed.

Tuesday - New spellings will be on Spelling Shed (all spellings for the year are on the class pages of the school website).

Wednesday - Spellings and homework given out and purple books taken home.

Friday - Cracking times tables quiz in class.

### **Times Tables:**

Your child should rehearse their times tables at least 3 times per week. They can do this in any way they feel will help them but it **MUST** be evidenced weekly, in their home learning books. There are a variety of fun online games to support this practice. This will support your child with ALL numeracy work undertaken in class. Children will participate in a quiz on a weekly basis to ensure these skills are developing.

### **Spellings:**

These will be stuck into their homework book every WEDNESDAY, should be completed with handwritten spelling sentences and handed in every following MONDAY. They will then be tested through a handwritten spelling test, every



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week (Monday).

Every spelling must be written out a minimum of 3 times and then used in a written sentence (underlining the spelling word) eg:

Spelling word is 'because'

because

because

because

'The little girl ran to her Mummy because the dog was there.'

## **Maths/English/other:**

Maths homework is designed to support current learning and is in addition to times tables practice. Occasionally there may be English or Science/Topic homework. This will be set on a Wednesday and due on the following Monday.

Both spelling sentences, and maths homework should be completed in their purple homework books.

## **Reading:**

Reading books and planners should be brought into school daily. Please make sure you have completed the previous week's entries AND signed it for when homework is handed in on a Monday.

Children should read to you aloud from a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts and can include school books, as well as those from home. Every time your child reads aloud to you, make sure this is signed for in the home learning book. Take time to discuss the texts, addressing style, language, and punctuation and ensure they are confident in their understanding of words and passages throughout. Year 3 children are required to read a minimum of 3 times a week (15 to 20 minutes each time), to an adult, as part of their home learning. Please ensure this is the minimum number of times you read together, as this skill underpins learning across the entire curriculum.

## **Equipment needed for every day in class:**

Please check out the school website for links to equipment needed in class:

<https://www.widmerend.bucks.sch.uk/stationery-requirements/>

Pencil cases will come home every Friday and are to be checked, pencils sharpened and equipment restocked. It is essential this happens so children are readily equipped for their learning in the week ahead. Notes will be sent home when a child has run out of an item, to ensure they are consistently well-stocked and ready to learn.

## **PE / Games clothing:**

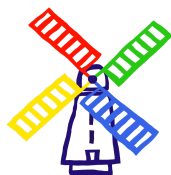
Children are to come in dressed in PE Kit on their nominated days, which are **Monday** (indoors) and **Tuesday** (outdoors). For outdoor PE, please ensure your child is in clothes comfortable and suitable for the weather that day.

Outdoor games – Track suit, trainers

Indoor PE - shorts / joggers / t shirt / trainers

Earrings: Children need to provide their own tape to cover earrings or a small container to put them in. If they wish to remove them for PE they must be able to do so independently.

See the school uniform policy for further details: [Widmer End CC School Uniform Policy](#)



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## **Break and Lunch:**

A named water bottle and fruit or salad snack must be provided daily. This is really important as it will help your child remain focused throughout the day.

Please ensure, for the time being, that your child is provided with a packed lunch or that you have ordered their lunch through the Kids Lunch Company. Link: <https://www.widmerend.bucks.sch.uk/school-lunches/>

## **Meet The Teacher:**

You are invited to 'Meet the Teacher' on Tuesday 10th September at 6pm. It will be lovely to meet as many of you as possible and answer any questions you may have.

Dates for parents evening will be communicated once confirmed.

I hope this letter has answered any questions you might have. If you do have anything else to discuss please send a message via the office and I will get in touch with you.

Kind regards

Ms Atkins