



Holy Souls RC Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Danielle Ellison

Chair of Governors: Miss Margaret Wells

Dear Parents/Carers,

WELCOME TO YEAR 3!

September 2025

Your child is now in Year 3 - the exciting beginning of Key Stage 2! This marks a big step in a child's journey through primary school as they are no longer the youngest in the school; they are now seen as junior children. Year 3 is a time of incredible growth, where children begin to develop greater independence, maturity, and confidence and as their teacher, I feel incredibly privileged to guide them through this new stage. I have a good understanding of where children need to be for the end of Key Stage 2 from teaching Year 6 for many years so I feel I can use that knowledge to provide a solid foundation for the more advanced knowledge and skills that are to come.

I hope you find this information useful and I hope it will help to ensure a smooth transition during the start of our Autumn term.

A few key changes from leaving KS1 and entering KS2:

- The children will gradually have **afternoons without an afternoon break**. The first couple of weeks will start with afternoon breaks, but these will eventually be phased out.
- **Fruit and milk are no longer provided at morning break times**. A fruit snack can still be brought in from home.
- The children will start **learning French** as a Modern Foreign Language once a week with an experienced French teacher.
- **Forest School** starts again for your child in the Autumn term. More information to follow.

P.E: Tuesday afternoon

Please ensure that your child comes to school in their PE kit which must be clearly labelled to prevent any items getting lost.

Your child can wear their black PE shorts, black jogging bottoms or leggings along with their Holy Souls PE top and their school jumper/cardigan. Plain black or white trainers must be worn. We would also link to remind you that earrings are not part of school uniform.

Forest School:

In Year 3, the children will be taking part in forest school on a **Thursday** afternoon for one half term. This is an amazing programme of learning in the outdoors to develop new skills and additional experiences to their curriculum. The class will be split into groups: Group 1 will have their Forest school sessions in Autumn Term 1 and Group 2 will have theirs in Autumn 2. If your child has forest school, they will need to bring the following: a waterproof jacket, jogging bottoms and wellies - further information will be provided.



HOMEWORK: Reading books:

Reading books will be given to your child in the first couple of days once he/she has been assessed.



In Year 3/KS2, children select reading books from our extensive school library as oppose to the schemed books in KS1.

Your child is still expected to read **every day** in order to make the expected progress and even though they are now entering Year 3, we still advice parents to sit and read with their child as you have during KS1.

Please could you sign the reading record every time that your child reads in the day to show that your child has done their daily reading.

Let us know the date, the book, what pages have been read and if you wish to provide any comments regarding your child's reading, then please include this too.

We will check reading records daily and award Class Dojos for regular readers.

Once your child has completed a reading book, a quiz will need to be completed before selecting a new book. The children will complete these in school. Please bear with us if on occasion, your child has to wait until the next day to complete the quiz and swap their book.

HOMEWORK:

Spellings & TT Rock Stars

In Year 3, children will be given spellings to practice and tested on these every **Friday**. When possible, please practice these with your child throughout the week. Little and often tends to be the best strategy when it comes to learning spellings!

Children also have access to Times Tables Rockstars which can be accessed via:

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student>.

Alternatively, the TTRS app can be downloaded on google play or the apple app store. Accessing TTRS each week will help your child develop a secure knowledge of times tables, which is essential for further Maths progression in future years.

Logins will be given to this in due course.



Red bags & water bottles:

Pupils in Year 3 are expected to bring their red bags **daily** to bring their reading book and reading record, along with any other letters or information to

and from school. It is also important for your child to bring a water bottle every day to ensure he/she keeps hydrated - but please only fill with water. If your child doesn't have a red bag or water bottle, then you can purchase one from the school office, via our online payment system.

Please can we ask that large rucksacks are not brought in as school bags, as we struggle to fit them onto the children's hooks!

End of the day arrangements: All children in Year 3 should be collected from the Year 3 door, at 3:15pm. I will be outside the Year 3 door at the end of each day if you need a quick word, or should

there be any issues that you wish to discuss in more detail, then please contact me via the office email address.

Please be rest assured that I will do my best to ensure that your child has a happy and successful year in Year 3. I am extremely happy to be working with your child this year and I am excited to see the progress he/she will make. Please let me know if I can assist with anything.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs L. Brown

Holy Souls School is a Roman Catholic Primary School in the Diocese of Salford and the Borough of Blackburn with Darwen

