

Year 3 Parent Handbook 2017-2018



Welcome to the new school year!

Introduction

Within this booklet we have put together an overview of the curriculum for your child this year and also some general information and reminders that we hope you will find useful. The booklets are specific to each year group so if you have more than one child please do read each booklet. Copies of these are also available on the school Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Your child's login for the VLE can be found on page 4 of this booklet.

Working Together

Your support is important to enable your child to do as well as they can and we value a close working relationship with parents and carers. We aim for children to leave our school having achieved their best, by developing their skills and talents through a range of learning activities and experiences. The school teaches a broad and balanced curriculum that includes the National Curriculum, which is enriched through additional events and activities. We do expect children to fully participate in events and educational visits. If there is a concern or difficulty in your child participating please speak to Mrs Callender in confidence.

Your child will be given homework activities which are detailed in this booklet. Please do support your child in completing these. It is important that homework is done so that your child can participate confidently during follow-up activities in school.

Your child's teacher will be the key point of contact for you and it is most helpful if you let the teacher know about any matters that may affect your child, so that we can support them in school. You may sometimes have questions or concerns and your child's teacher will be happy to discuss these with you. Brief updates, for example about end of day collection, can be easily exchanged at the classroom door as your child arrives for school. However, it is best to arrange a meeting for the end of the day if you wish to have a more lengthy conversation.

Most matters will be appropriately discussed and resolved with the teacher. However, you may feel a matter is more appropriately discussed with a more senior member of staff, in which case you may wish to arrange a conversation with either Mrs Ross (Deputy Headteacher) or Mrs Callender (Headteacher). Any conversations or meetings can be arranged either directly with the class teacher or via the school office.

Attendance

We value children's good attendance and children receive bronze, silver and gold certificates for 100% attendance each term. There is a strong link between children's good progress in school and their good attendance. We are a local authority school and governed by their policies. It is not permitted to take children out of school for a holiday during term time. Exceptions are made for families in the armed forces if a parent is due to go/returning from a tour of duty. If you do feel there is an exceptional reason for your child to be absent from school, the request should be made in writing at least two weeks prior to the event, marked clearly 'Request for Authorised Absence', and handed into the school office. Any requests will be considered and authorised at the Headteacher's discretion in accordance with the Local Authority and National guidelines.

Welcome to Year 3

Key Stage Leader – Mr Wakefield

Year group Leader – Miss Sharma

Cedar Class – Mrs Smith with Mrs Bowskill & Miss Murphy

Elm Class – Miss Sharma with Mrs Cogan

Hawthorn Class – Miss Leary with Mrs Pease & Mrs Wright



We are a Values School!

Shefford Lower is a values school. Below are the values for each month. Although we have two values to focus on each month, the other values are still used, modelled and lived every day in school.

Children are rewarded with a stamp on their individual values leaf when they have demonstrated one of the school's values. Special Milestone Leaves are awarded to the children in assembly when they have achieved certain numbers of stamps.

September	Respect	Responsibility
October	Thoughtfulness	Kindness
November	Tolerance	Understanding
December	Peace	Hope
January	Excellence	Quality
February	Freedom	Happiness
March	Friendship	Love
April	Patience	Sharing
May	Co-operation	Unity
June	Trust	Honesty
July	Courage	Determination



Some useful websites:

Oxford Owl – Phonics:

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/home/reading-site/expert-help/phonics-made-easy>

Virtual Learning Environment: <https://bedfordshire.itslearning.com>

Shefford Lower School Website: <http://www.sheffordlowerschool.co.uk/>

Bug Club / Phonics Bug: <http://www.bugclub.co.uk>

English

Autumn Term 2017	Spring Term 2018	Summer Term 2018
<p>Texts will include:</p> <p>The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig and other fairy stories (Fairy Tales) The Iron Man (Fantasy Tales) Snow Globe Adventure Haikus and winter poetry Katie's Picture Show</p>	<p>Texts will include:</p> <p>The Twits (Playscript) Howard Carter News report (Script Writing/Performing) Adventure Story (Adventure Stories) Fact Files based on Topic The Plot on the Pyramid/ The Gold in the Grave – Terry Deary (Historical/Information Texts)</p>	<p>Texts will include:</p> <p>Fantastic Mr Fox Aboriginal Stories (Stories from another culture/Myths and Legends) Books by Julia Jarman (Poetry) Blob (David Walliams)</p>
<p>Spellings will include:</p> <p>Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable The 'i' sound spelt 'y' elsewhere than at the end of words The 'u' sound spelt 'ou' Adding –dis, -mis and in- prefixes Adding the suffix –ly Common exceptions: changing y to an i Common exceptions: changing -le to –ly Common exceptions: changing –ic to –ally Words with the 's' sound spelt 'sc' Words with the 'ei' sound spelt 'ei', 'eigh' or 'ey' Possessive apostrophe with plural words Homophones and near-homophones</p> <p>Words to be learnt in years 3 and 4: Including: <i>accident, advertise, approve, benefit, behave, bicycle, breath, breathe, building, calendar, certain, concentrate, chocolate, congratulate, conscience, continue, decorate, describe, dictionary, difficult, discover, disturb, early, earn, earth, educate, excite, experience, experiment, explore, extreme, February, grammar, guide, guard, half, heart, immediate, improve, increase, independent, injure, inquire, interest, island, junior, knowledge. Library, material, medicine, mention, multiply, murmur, nephew, occasion, often, opposite, paragraph, particular, peculiar, position, possess, produce, professor, promise, property, prove, punctuate, quality, quantity, quarrel, quarter, recite, recover, register, regular, reign, remember, sentence, separate, sew, situate, strength, sufficient, sure, surprise, surround, thought, through, though, weary</i></p>		<p>Examples:</p> <p>forgetting, forgotten</p> <p>myth, gym, Egypt young, touch, double disappoint, misbehave, incorrect sadly, completely, usually happily, angrily gently, simply, nobly basically, frantically, dramatically chef, chalet, machine vein, eight, obey girls', boys' grate/great, accept/except</p>

Glossary of terms

Homophone	Two words are homophones if they have the same pronunciation.
Plural/Possessive apostrophe	In plural possessive terms, place the apostrophe after the 's'. This will indicate to the reader that more than one person or thing owns the thing possessed.
Prefix	A prefix is added at the beginning of a word in order to turn it into another word e.g. <u>un</u> load, <u>un</u> fair.
Suffix	A suffix an ending, something added to the end of one word to turn it into another word e.g. sad <u>ness</u> , joy <u>ful</u> .

Syllable A syllable is a unit of pronunciation having one vowel sound, with or without surrounding consonants, forming the whole or a part of a word; for example, there are two syllables in *water* and three in *inferno*.

Vowel a, e, i, o, u (and sometimes y) are vowels.

Mathematics

The national curriculum is designed to ensure all pupils become **fluent** in the fundamentals of mathematics, **solve problems** and **reason** mathematically.

Fluency in mathematics is related to children being able to learn and remember key mathematical facts e.g. the 3 times table

Problem Solving is the ability to apply mathematics to a variety of problems e.g. word problems, investigations.


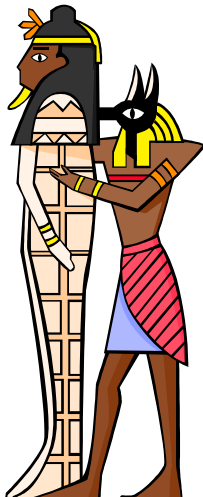

Reasoning is to use what is known about mathematics to tackle a problem and make connections between their learning e.g. *Are all multiples of 3 even? No!*

See Calculation Policy (Appendix)

Glossary of terms

Addition	The process of calculating the total of two or more numbers or amounts.
Division	Division is splitting into equal parts or groups.
Fraction	Part of a whole.
Geometry	The area of mathematics that deals with shapes and space.
Measure	To find a number that shows the size of something. Usually the number is in reference to some standard measurement, such as a metre or kilogram.
Multiplication	The basic idea of multiplication is repeated addition. For example: $5 \times 3 = 5 + 5 + 5 = 15$
Number	A number is a count or measurement.
Place Value	The value of where the digit is in the number, such as units, tens, hundreds, etc.
Subtraction	Taking one number away from another.

Topic

Autumn Term 2017	Spring Term 2018	Summer Term 2018
<p>History and Geography: Prehistoric Life, Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age</p>  <p>Art and Design: Making helmets, stone age painting and food.</p> <p>Science: Rocks and Soils, Light</p> <p>Including a: Stone Age Day!</p>	<p>History and Geography: Life in Ancient Egypt, buildings and pyramids, Gods and Goddesses</p> <p>Art and Design: Painting Cartouches, Blending colours for Set/Osiris scene, Using clay for sculptures</p>  <p>Science: Magnets and Springs, Forces</p> <p>Including: Swimming</p>	<p>History and Geography: Where is Australia? The first Australians, The Outback</p> <p>Art and Design: Aboriginal Art</p>  <p>Science: The Human Body – bones and muscles, Life Cycle of a flowering plant</p> <p>Including: Sing Up! Australia Day</p>

Computing

The core of computing is computer science, in which pupils are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. Building on this knowledge and understanding, pupils are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content. Computing also ensures that pupils become digitally literate – able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world.



Autumn Term 2017	Spring Term 2018	Summer Term 2018
<p>Programming – We will be programming our own computer games using Kodu Game Lab.</p>	<p>Coding and Debugging – We will use Scratch to write and debug code.</p>	<p>Research and Data Handling – We will use the internet safely as well as Google Forms to research and create a database.</p>

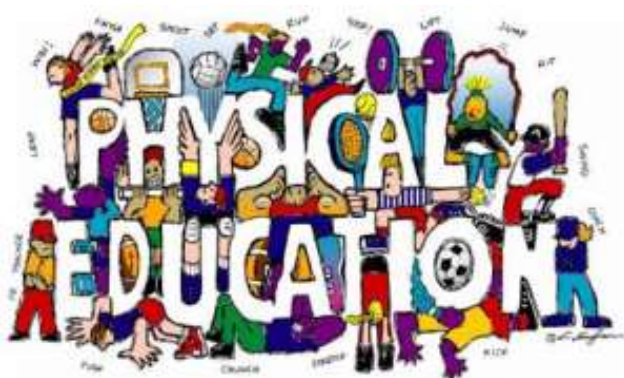
Glossary of key terms

Algorithm	An unambiguous procedure or precise step-by-step guide to solve a problem or achieve a particular objective.
Debug	To detect and correct the errors in a computer program.
Input	Data provided to a computer system, such as via a keyboard, mouse, microphone, camera or physical sensors.
Internet	The global collection of computer networks and their connections, all using shared protocols (TCP/IP) to communicate.
Output	The information produced by a computer system for its user, typically on a screen, through speakers or on a printer, but possibly through the control of motors in physical systems.
Program	A stored set of instructions encoded in a language understood by the computer that does some form of computation, processing input and/or stored data to generate output.
Sequence	To place programming instructions in order, with each executed one after the other.
Simulation	Using a computer to model the state and behaviour of real-world (or imaginary) systems, including physical and social systems; an integral part of most computer games.
Variables	A way in which computer programs can store, retrieve or change simple data, such as a score, the time left, or the user's name.
World Wide Web	A service provided by computers connected to the internet (web servers), in which pages of hypertext (web pages) are transmitted to users; the pages typically include links to other web pages and may be generated by programs automatically.

ESafety: Throughout all of the units children will be taught how to keep safe when using any computer, tablet or website. This will include the safe use of photographs, usernames and email. Children will be encouraged to use tablets and computers in the presence of their parents and will follow up any concerns regarding children's use of Facebook, Twitter, etc. Social Media sites are not considered appropriate for children of lower school age.

PE

PE will be on the following days:



Cedar Class – Monday morning & Wednesday afternoon

Elm Class – Wednesday afternoon & Thursday morning

Hawthorn Class – Tuesday morning & Friday afternoon

PE Kit must be in a drawstring bag therefore **no rucksacks allowed**. These will be stored on pegs.

Throughout this year the children in year 3 will have opportunities to be taught PE by our specialist sports teacher, Mr Tilbury.

They will be taught games, gymnastics and dance in school, including some outdoor PE and indoor work using a range of apparatus.

In Year 3 some children may be invited to partake in inter/intra school competitions, including a range of festivals such as Sportshall Athletics and Multi-skills Festivals arranged by the Redbourne Sports Partnership.

Children are selected to participate in sports festivals based upon their effort, learning behaviours and ability in that area of PE. The school will endeavour to provide an opportunity for as many children as possible to attend these events throughout their time at the school.

Music



In Year 3 this year the children will have an opportunity to work with our music specialist teacher, Mrs Rayner, and learn to play the ocarina. They will also have the opportunity to attend recorder club and choir.

Children in Key Stage 2 will who are learning to play an instrument and/or attend the choir/recorder groups are invited to perform at evening concerts throughout the year. They are also invited to perform for the residents of The Birches in the lead up to Christmas. Children in the choir are regular asked to perform at different school events such as the PSA Coffee Mornings and the switching on of the Shefford Christmas Lights.

In class they will complete a unit using the recorders and will rehearse and perform alongside staff from 'Inspiring Music' working towards a final 'Sing Up' performance at the Corn Exchange in Bedford at the end of the year.

We do expect all of our children to attend this event and if you have any concerns or difficulties regarding your child participating we would urge you to discuss this confidentially with Mrs Callender.

General Information

School Book bags can be bought from reception. Children are expected to bring a book bag to school rather than other types of bags as they will need to fit into their class tray.

Snacks: In Year 3 the children, if they wish, may bring in their own snacks for morning playtime; these need to be raw or dried fruit and vegetables. We would also encourage your child to bring in their own named water bottle to ensure they get enough fluids during the school day.



Reading: We expect the children to read to an adult at home three times a week as part of their weekly homework. Children who read three times or more in a week will be given a Raffle Ticket. These go into a draw and the owner of the winning ticket receives a book from the prize box.

Spellings: Spellings are given weekly and spelling activity sheets should be kept in their red folder. The children should practise (using the look, cover, write, check strategy) their list of spellings up to three times at home before the test. The words will be based on a particular spelling objective.

The test will take place on a Monday and new spellings will be issued on Tuesday. The score they received and the spellings they got wrong will be shared with parents.

MyMaths: MyMaths homework is set every other Friday (the same day as the Learning Log). The children will have two weeks to complete the activities.

Learning Logs: Children in Year 3 will be issued with a Learning Log activity every two weeks. Children will receive a new learning activity every other week on a Friday, with the work being handed in on a Wednesday.

