



**LITTLE KINGSHILL COMBINED SCHOOL**  
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Head Teacher: Mrs G Sutaria-Cassidy  
**littlekingshillschool.co.uk**

**WHERE LEARNING HAS NO LIMITS**

Dear Parents

I would like to welcome you all to Year 3 and KS2.

I am usually on the playground at pick up time and can answer quick questions then. If you prefer to meet for longer or in private I can see parents after school most days except Monday, please make an appointment via the office.

This letter is an overview of the coming term.

I will be able to give more general information and answer questions at the **'Meet the teacher' meeting on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>.at 8:45.**

We have some exciting things planned this term including:

In **English** we will be focussing on poetry, instruction writing and stories from around the world. We will be having fun developing our drama techniques and speaking & listening skills as well as the more serious, technical aspects of writing. There will be a weekly spellings list that the children will be tested on, as well as handwriting practice in order to achieve their pen licence. Of course good reading skills are paramount for all subjects so there will be daily reading sessions timetabled. PLEASE encourage your child to read for pleasure, but also continue to hear them read aloud from their school reading book. Asking questions to encourage good comprehension is still a vital thing to do together.

In **Maths** we will be using the Inspire Maths program. This will continue to develop the children's core number skills and the use of the four operations. There will be some new and unfamiliar vocabulary or methods. I will try to keep you up to date through the weekly letters and am happy to discuss any concerns that may arise.

One of the key focuses that we have in Year 3 is to **know their times tables by heart** and the corresponding division facts. It is important that they spend 5 minutes each day learning their tables. We will doing the 'Times Table Challenge' once every two weeks; a 3 minute speed-check of tables facts which build up level by level. Once marked I will send them home for your reference.

In **Science** we will be studying 'Forces & Magnets'. After half term we will be learning about 'Healthy Eating & how our bodies work'. **We may be using the school grounds during some lessons so the children should have suitable outdoor clothing in school at all times please.**





In **Computing** the children will be developing their typing and word-processing skills, learning to use the Internet safely for research and using some programming (coding) and animation software. The children will be encouraged to practise some of these skills at home using the free resources available online.

As a class we will begin to learn **French** together; this term we will begin with names and greetings, classroom instructions and objects.

In **Geography** we are looking at Rainforests including plants and animals, together with the effects of human intervention. **We will be visiting 'The Living Rainforest' this term. Approximate costs and details of this trip will be made available to you as soon as I have them (approximately £20). More details to follow.**

In **RE** the children will be looking at different places of worship and comparing different Autumn term religious festivals.

In **PSHE** we will be looking at who create rules and laws (and why we need them!); our personal responsibility and safety.

**Music** will be taught by Mrs Box who will develop the children's singing techniques and begin to teach some recorder skills. A letter will go out shortly with more details about the recorder lessons and what the children will need.

Our **Art** topic this term is Pattern, we will be looking at works by famous artists, creating our own patterns and looking at patterns in nature (in particular camouflage and patterns of animals and plants in the rainforests).

### **Morning Playtime Snacks**

The children may bring fruit or raw vegetables to eat at morning playtimes. Please can it be **wrapped, named and separate from their lunch**. This will help maintain their concentration and energy levels until lunchtime especially as they now go into lunch on second sitting.

### **Water bottles**

Children should each have a clear, named water bottle (with a sports cap top) with them throughout the day. Again this will help the children to maintain concentration levels throughout the day. New bottles can be purchased via the office.



## Parent Helpers

We are always very grateful for regular help in the classroom, particularly with reading and Art / D.T. To be able to help in school it is necessary for parents to have an up-to-date police check. Further information and forms are available from the office.

I will have a timetable with available slots to sign up after school, at the 'meet-the teacher' meeting, or you can drop me a note with your preferred times to help and I will contact you soon.

## Reading books

Reading books will be changed as required. Reading levels from last term are currently being reviewed; I will be hearing every child read during guided reading sessions each week and will reassess as necessary. It is still very important that children read aloud on a regular basis to an adult to help them develop both comprehension and expression. This is part of the children's homework and I would be grateful if you could initial or sign their reading diary each time they read aloud. A record of their reading books will be kept in school.

## P.E. / Games

Games lessons are on Tuesday afternoons and Dance on Wednesday mornings. There may be other sessions through the week so **full kit must be available in school at all times**. Please can you ensure that all PE kit is named. All jewellery and watches must be removed for Games and P.E. Any children with ear-rings should remove them on these days or cover them themselves with tape or plasters (to be brought in from home). It would also be useful if you could make sure that your child is able to retie their ties and shoes! Y3 attend sports events at different venues locally which incur a nominal fee, usually around £5.00 depending on distance, to cover transport costs.

**Sports clubs:-** Children should always bring an alternative kit and footwear for all sports clubs; they should not wear items from their school PE kit.

## Homework

Your child will be receiving regular homework tasks related to the topics being covered in the curriculum. This will help to consolidate what is covered in school and enable parents to become involved with what is happening within the classroom. All homework tasks will be recorded in each child's Homework book which they must bring to and from school **every day**. This will enable you to monitor homework and we would ask that **you sign** your child's book at the end of each week when all tasks have been completed. A copy of the homework timetable will be stuck in your child's homework book. Each child has been given a clear folder as well as a purple homework book to help them keep worksheets, book etc together.

Most single homework tasks should not take longer than 20 minutes – if it's taking consistently longer than this please let me know.



In line with KS2 policy, instances where homework is late will be recorded and the child will be required to complete the task in their own time. Where 3 pieces of work are late during a half term period, then the child will lose one of their lunchtimes and communication with parents will be made. It is hoped that the children will feel proud of all they achieve. We will expect homework to be completed to the same standard of presentation and care that we would in the classroom for any other piece of work. Where children do not complete work to a satisfactory standard they will be expected to redo it. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me (after school is preferable).

As a guide, the following schedule for homework will be followed as closely as possible to aid continuity:

	<i><b>Homework out</b></i>	<i><b>Homework In</b></i>
<i><b>Each Day</b></i>	Reading aloud ; Times tables	
<i><b>Monday</b></i>	English set- (to be handed in on Friday)	
<i><b>Tuesday</b></i>		
<i><b>Wednesday</b></i>	Spellings set (testing on the following Wednesday)	Maths in Spelling tests
<i><b>Thursday</b></i>		
<i><b>Friday</b></i>	Maths set- (to be handed in on Wednesday)	English in

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**IMPORTANT: Please inform the office ASAP of any changes to your child's medical record, especially any changes in medication.**



*Please encourage your child to deliver letters/messages etc. to me rather than through the office. Not only will this give them responsibilities and develop their independence but also alleviate the office staff's morning workload*

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to meeting you all in person very soon.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs Sarah Middleton



## Film Permission

Dear Parents

Over the course of KS2 to support our learning, we will be using a range of feature films, shorts and clips from films. All films will be suitable for children and will have been checked to make sure they are appropriate for the children to watch.

Please can you complete the slip below and return it to school as soon as possible. If you have any concerns or wish to discuss this further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Middleton

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## Film Permission

I give my permission for ..... (*pupil*)  
to watch selected films.

Parent / Guardian Name: .....

Signed: .....

Dated: .....