



## **Puffins Class - Year 3**

**Autumn 2017**

September 2017

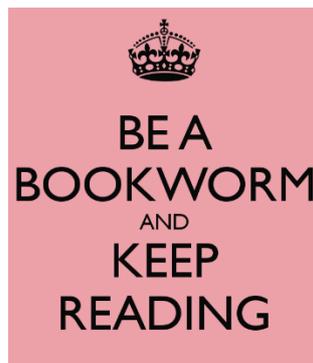
*Hello parents and pufflings,*

*Welcome back to the new term and to Year 3 - Puffins Class! I hope you've all had a fabulous summer break and are refreshed, ready for the new learning ahead, including our new and exciting topic – **HARMONY AND CONFLICT!** We will start to consider key questions such as:*

- ❖ *What does **HARMONY** and **CONFLICT** mean to me?*
- ❖ *How can we live harmoniously?*
- ❖ *How did two bullets kill 20,000,000 people?*
- ❖ *How did women become stronger through war?*

### **We love Literacy!**

*We will kick-start the term with some poetry from and inspired by visual and written texts, to develop our understanding of what **HARMONY** and **CONFLICT** means; immersing ourselves in the chronology of the significant events in British history, such as *The Great War*. Our writing skills will be broadened to apply precise topic vocabulary discussed and generated in class, coupled with extending our punctuation choices to add meaning and effect for the reader. Please take a look at the class display and School Literacy webpage for useful ideas.*



**"A book is a gift you can open again and again."** (Garrison Keillor)

*In Year 3, we are excellent readers and we realise that now we read to learn. We will be sharing a range of texts, including video texts to draw out our inference skills as well as our well-practised retrieval reading skills. We will continue to broaden our knowledge and understanding of different text genres, such as newspapers, persuasive leaflets and poetry, in order to open our minds to new ideas and increase our language skills orally and in our writing.*

*Our reading partnership is paramount! Please continue to read with your child on a daily basis to ensure that they are practising and developing this wonderful skill, which will take them forward throughout KS2 and beyond. If you are looking at new books to engage and excite your reading at home, please feel free to borrow a book from the School Library or Class 3 Book Corner. Alternatively, click on <http://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk> to be inspired.*

### **Sharing your reading progress and fun at home...**

A NEW red Home School Diary has been provided for you to record the book title, book level (if there is one), page or chapter numbers with a signature from a parent or carer after each read. This will be checked regularly with brief comments and suggestions noted to help your reading and rich discussions at home. I will also provide feedback personally, as I truly value face-to-face communication. Excitedly, the children have said that they would like the 'Reading Raffle' to continue, so to have the opportunity to be awarded a NEW book, keep reading and record the comments 5 times a week.

### **Let's be marvellous with maths in MMXVII!**

This term will be building on our learning from Year 2 by weaving our understanding of images, maths symbols ( $\times$ ,  $-$ ,  $\div$ ,  $\%$ ,  $<$ ,  $>$  and  $=$ ), language (equivalent and sum) and applying our maths in to a real context, linked to topic. We will be revisiting Number Sense, Additive Reasoning and Multiplicative Reasoning. Remember to keep looking at the class webpage for examples of learning, videos and helpful hints.

### **We will spring into action in our P.E. learning this Autumn!**

P.E. will continue to be on both **Wednesday and Friday** each week. To ensure that we get the maximum enjoyment and learning from our activities, ensure that your child has ALL the correct P.E. kit for each session with their kits in class EVERY MONDAY. A P.E. kit reminder email was shared at the end of last term. However, if you would like a reminder, please see the parents' notice board. P.E. kits will be sent home each Friday for the new week ahead.

### **Calling all Super Learners! Are you a Home Learning Hero?**

**Maths** – we will focus on times tables practise and a challenge will be sent home each Monday. Then they will have a short quiz each Friday to challenge their remembering skills. Also, at the start of the term, you will receive a NEW helpful 'Off by heart' maths booklet – packed with resources and activity ideas for you to practise and have fun at home together. I'd also love to see any comments listed in the Home School Diary about the learning or comments from your child. The aim is to help practise and remember the essential maths facts, that can be applied in class.

### **Class expectations and keeping in touch with important dates and exciting activities:**

There is a **parents' notice board** in the cloakroom area and there is also an open-door policy from 8:40am, where you can meet and greet the class members. However, it's essential that the children are ready for their learning by the second bell at 8:50am, when the learning will commence promptly. A gentle reminder that children are expected to wear no hair products or fancy hair accessories, nail varnish, long hair needs to be neatly tied back and sensible shoes are a must – especially for our Daily Physical Activity (DPA) activities. Also, they will need to have their Woolacombe School water bottle in class – only water. If you need a new one, they cost £1 and can be purchased online.

Finally, I am pleased that I will be continuing the successful **class blog**, which will be launched later this term. I will explain to the children how to safely access the blog and I can't wait to update it with the help of Puffins Class, using exciting examples of work, children's feedback and book reviews for example. Furthermore, I will continue to regularly update the Class 3 webpage with curriculum updates, weekly learning foci, termly spelling words and some Home Learning task instructions – ideal if any important paper correspondence gets lost! However, please remember to visit the school website, <http://www.woolacombe.devon.sch.uk/> for exciting workshops and events, such as reading and grammar workshops. If you require further information about the expectations and curriculum, why not visit Puffins Class at 2:30pm, Thursday 7th September for our 'Meet the teacher meeting'. I'm looking forward to seeing you.

Thank you for your continued support and let's make Year 3 FANTASTIC!

**Sam Simpson**  
Year 3 Class Teacher