

# Class 7 Year 3

Mrs Rogers and Mrs Powell  
**Information Booklet**



**Academic Year  
2018 - 2019**

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# Climb to Sparkle!



**Mrs N Rogers**  
Class teacher



**Mrs L Powell**  
Class teaching assistant

**Other staff in our area are:**



**Miss D Grimas**  
Class 8 teacher



**Mrs C Cox**  
Class 8 teaching assistant

**Welcome to Year 3!** We hope you find the following information booklet useful. Included are details about your child's curriculum, the topics we intend to cover throughout the year and how their learning will develop throughout the year. Information will be updated regularly on our year 3 webpage of the school's website: <http://www.garnteg.torfaen.sch.uk>

We would like to take this opportunity to tell you about our 'open door policy'. If you have any queries or concerns about your child please come and talk to us at the end of the day. Alternatively you can call the school to arrange a meeting.

## Daily routines

The school is open from 8:50am. When the children arrive in the classroom they begin an Early Morning Activity which will support or reinforce learning or be time to enjoy reading a range of books, magazines and leaflets. This will allow the class teacher to complete the register. Pupils begin activities immediately upon arrival and morning register is taken at 9.00 am. Registers are also taken at the start of the afternoon session. Registers are closed at 9.15 am and 1.10pm. The school day finishes at 3:15 and children are to be collected from the KS2 playground gate or to walk home with your permission.

Children who return to school following a period of absence are expected to produce an explanatory note/letter from their parents, unless the school has been previously informed by telephone. Persistent, unexplained absences are reported to the Headteacher who will bring the matter to the attention of the Education Welfare Officer

Throughout the day the children will complete:

- 1 hour of Literacy
- 1 hour of Maths
- 15 minutes of Welsh oral.
- 20 minutes of reading time
- 2 hours of topic or subject based work

The children participate in a school or class assembly four times a week and a singing practice once a week on a Tuesday afternoon.

At the end of the school day children will either be collected from school at the side gate in the car park or walk home. If there are any problems with collection please notify the office. If a child is not collected as normal that child will make their way to the school reception area and wait in the safe environment of the school.

## School Uniform

Children in Yr3 are expected to adhere to the recognised school uniform. If there are any problems with uniform please inform the class teacher in person or through sending in a note.

## **The National Curriculum and the New National Literacy and Numeracy Framework 2013/4.**

Garnteg Primary School uses a thematic planning approach through the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2. For Key Stage 2, overview plans for subjects detail main objectives, differentiated activities, assessment opportunities and resources. They also show linkage to the school improvement plan.

Weekly planning grids highlight the main learning outcomes for each session and are completed by teachers during the weekly planning and preparation time.

When mind maps in the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 have been created, teachers highlight the skills that the children will be taught on the skills grid. This ensures skills coverage. Numeracy and literacy skills across the curriculum are also incorporated into weekly overviews. An additional learning needs identification sheet accompanies planning grids and highlights how those children with additional learning needs are supported.

A thinking skills lesson is taught weekly in each year group.

Please find attached our autumn term topic web, which highlights our curriculum coverage for this term.

Nationals tests in numeracy and literacy are now carried out every summer term. These are compulsory tests set by the Welsh Assembly Government.

### **Literacy**

The Literacy Hour is an opportunity to develop children's reading, writing and spelling skills through the Big Write programme. Children will discuss the text content, aspects of the text such as language, layout and meaning. Reading will then inspire a piece of children's writing.

Big Write sessions will take place every Thursday, which gives the children an opportunity to be creative through their structured piece of writing in a positive learning environment. Work is then assessed, and children are given the opportunity to improve their work the following day.

The Read Write Inc. intervention programme will take place first thing each morning for 20 minutes. Here they cover phonics and practise their reading skills.

### **Maths**

During our daily maths lessons the children work on a number of mental strategies. Using a range of resources such as individual whiteboards, number cards and an interactive maths board the children work on their ability to calculate sums mentally. This is a very effective way of revising previous work and developing understanding of relationships between numbers. There is also a strong emphasis on developing a range of strategies with which to approach calculations. This supports children in checking their answers by approaching questions in different ways. Children will also be given opportunities to put the strategies learnt into real life situations thus making their learning relevant to the world around them.

e.g. There are 12 rows of 11 stamps on a sheet. How many would there be on 40 sheets?

Children will learn shape, space and measure and how to handle data in tables, charts and graphs.

We have also recently started the Big Maths programme, which concentrates on mental strategies and tests children on their mental arithmetic every Thursday. Through continued practise and implementation of this programme, children's understanding and ability to answer mental calculations will improve.

## **ICT**

The skills of IT are taught directly in weekly ICT lessons as well as being integrated into topic and other subjects. Children benefit from a class set of laptops and iPads, access to the recording studio and a range of other ICT equipment. Each class has their own computer and SMART board with full internet and email access. We also use visual and audio recording equipment to allow pupils to record their work in different methods.

## **Science**

Science is taught for 2 hours per week. The topics are taught in blocks throughout a term. There is a focus on investigational work rather than “knowing facts”. The children are encouraged to plan, obtain, record and evaluate data. Children are given opportunities to question and challenge information and become scientific thinkers.

## **Physical Education**

The children have at least 2 hours of PE per week which takes place on Mondays and Fridays which includes a range of dance, gymnastics and ball skills. It is imperative that they wear suitable clothing for both indoor and outdoor activities. No jewellery is permitted.

### **Indoor activities:**

- Girls: shorts/ leggings and t-shirt, daps or bare feet.
- Boys: shorts t-shirt, daps or bare feet.

### **Outdoor activities:**

- Girls and boys: As above with suitable footwear, e.g. trainers. Tracksuit for cold weather.

## **Themed Learning**

This gives children opportunities to explore areas within a topic. The child will become more responsible for their learning. Where certain areas of learning are missed the teacher will deliver a focused lesson thus ensure the children receive a broad and balanced curriculum. This work will be record in books and portfolios.

## **PPA (planning, preparation and assessment)**

PPA is a statutory amount of time allocated to teachers to aid them in planning, preparation and assessing their teaching and the children’s learning. For this teacher will have half a day no-contact time per week. PPA will be covered by a member of staff within the school.

## **School Trips**

At the start of each term (where possible) children will be taken on a trip that relates to the theme for that term. The trip will aim to ‘spark’ the children’s enthusiasm for the topic and can then be built on back in and around the classroom. Our year 3 class are currently in the process of organising a trip to link in with our Autumn topic *‘May the Force Be with you.*

Some trips may not necessarily be linked to a terms theme, these trips will still be of strong educational or experiential value.

## **Classroom Rules**

In year 3/4 we ensure that we have a happy learning environment where everyone feels valued and enjoys their time together. In order for us to achieve this we have a number of rules that we abide by that are linked in with the school rules.

## **School Rules**

The school rules across both Foundation Phase and Key stage 2 are:

- Walk quietly around the school at all times.
- Keep hands, feet, objects and unkind words to ourselves.
- Follow instructions first time.
- Listen to the chosen speaker.
- Respect everyone on our school community.

These rules are reinforced throughout the school and children are expected to adhere to them at all times.

As we strive to help children become lifelong learners we promote independence and responsibility throughout the school day.

## **Tuck**

Children are allowed to bring their own **healthy** tuck to school or credit their account to buy fruit at the canteen. No sugary drinks should be brought to school, cups are available in every class for children to have drinks of water throughout the day. If unhealthy snacks are brought to school children will not be allowed to eat them.

## **School Council and Eco Council**

Two children from each class are elected to represent their peers on both the School Council and Eco Council. In Year 3 this involves attending meetings, where children are encouraged to highlight any issues their peers may have raised with them and to participate in making decisions that affect the running of the school.

## **Medical information**

If your child suffers from a medical condition that is likely to affect his/her education, we would be grateful if you would inform us.

Should your child require regular medication, and you wish to undertake its administration, we must ask that you inform us in writing. Information should contain the time of day it is to be taken and the dosage. Please complete a medical form at the office when bringing in your child first thing in the morning.

## **Home Learning**

Each year group sends out this annual Information Booklet for parents pertaining to their year group. In year 3 we encourage the following home learning activities to support learning.

### **Reading**

We recommend 10 – 15 minutes reading 5 times a week as a part of homework. Each child will have a home reader and reading record which will be changed each Monday, Wednesday and Friday when the children return them to class.

### **Numeracy**

Each term teachers will send home a leaflet containing activities that can be played at home. These activities are linked to the areas of maths being covered in class. Please make sure you

are playing the games several times a week. There are very positive results from doing these activities at home.

## **Home – School Links**

You are offered the opportunity of meeting with teachers throughout the year.

In the Autumn and Spring term there are formal Parent – Teacher Consultations. The consultations provide opportunity for parents to discuss with teachers children's progress, targets and voice any concerns they may have.

A written report is issued at the end of the Summer term.

Each week a newsletter is published and sent home each Friday.

You are invited to concert performances and assemblies throughout the year to share our celebrations. Each week the school holds an awards assembly (currently Wednesday 9.15-9.40). We invite parents of our 'pupils of the week' (announced in the previous Friday's newsletter) to join us in this assembly.

## **Parental Concerns**

If you should ever feel it is necessary to make a complaint about the school curriculum or indeed any other aspect of the school, your first point of contact would be the class teacher, senior lead member, deputy head teacher then the head teacher. If after speaking with the class teacher you are still concerned you can contact the school and arrange to discuss any matter with the head teacher in the hope that it can be resolved quickly and to everyone's satisfaction.

## **Class dojo**

At Garnteg we reward great behaviour with dojo points. Each child will have their own monster avatar and will build up their points and rewards through the year. Parents and carers are invited to view the children's dojo point progress where they can too download the app and receive notifications of the points changing, pictures and a live feed throughout the day. The school does not use the direct messenger on class dojo however, if there are any questions for staff the open door policy still stands.

## **Attendance**

In year 3 we pride ourselves on the great attendance records we have kept over previous years. We look forward to keeping this great attendance record over the coming year. Remember your child needs to be in school every day to learn and cannot achieve attendance targets if they have any absences that total 10 days or **more. Please** send your child to school every day.

## **Year 3 HOME SCHOOL POST**

We recognise the importance of children, parents, and teachers working in partnership to enhance the quality of education for each individual. To this end we have outlined some homework ideas to support learning this half term.

### **HOMEWORK RULES**

- Homework is intended to be a shared process between child and grown up.



- Homework ideas for maths activities will be sent out termly.
- Weekly homework, which support classroom learning, will be given on Fridays.
- You can do as much or as little as you wish

The children will bring their homework books home each fortnight. These will have a web of new activities each term that the children can work through in their own time. Parents are encouraged to partake in these activities and the children are encouraged to use lots of imagination. As always, children will be bringing home a book to read, share and enjoy. Please return the book each Monday, Wednesday and Friday with a comment on your child's reading of the book or read pages; children will be rewarded for regular reading at home and completion of homework. Reading is important to reinforce the strategies learnt in school during Read Write Inc or guided reading. The home reader should be a comfortable read in order to promote enjoyment of reading.

On a separate web line we have also included the Autumn term overview which outlines curriculum coverage and topics to be studied. You may wish to support you child and help them to develop their understanding of their topics or help them research using books or the internet.

**Spelling Lists will be given out each Friday by your child's Read Write Inc/ Literacy teacher.**

**You can help your child learn their spellings by using the following activities:**

- Use dictionaries to research and establish clusters of words using the same root.
- Create new words out of the same prefixes
- Use an (online) etymological dictionary to research word histories
- Use newspapers to highlight common connectives
- Identify phrases in everyday life which contain connectives.
- Make letter fans
- Create a word collage
- Create a poster
- Create a card game with certain spelling on

There are also lots of online resources which can help your child's spellings. The BBC website is a great place to start!

[www.primaryresources.co.uk](http://www.primaryresources.co.uk)  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/>  
<http://www.coolmath-games.com/>  
<http://www.purplemash.co.uk/>

**Enjoy supporting your child's learning.  
 We look forward to sharing your work and meeting you at Parents evening.**

## Year 3 high frequency words spellings

ask	stopped	first	around
asked	think	half	below
began	thought	morning	between
being	told	much	both
brought	tries	never	different
change	turn	number	following
coming	turned	often	high
didn't	used	only	inside
does	walk	second	near
found	walked	sometimes	other
goes	walking	still	outside
gone	watch	suddenly	place
heard	write	today	right
I'm	woke	until	round
jumped	woken	upon	such
knew	almost	while	though
know	always	year	together
leave	any	young	under
might	before	above	where
opened	better	across	without
show	during	along	
started	every	also	