



Fernhurst Primary School

Haslemere Road, Fernhurst, Surrey, GU27 3EA, Tel: 01428 653144  
www.fernhurst.w-sussex.sch.uk

9<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to Red Kites Class! I hope you all had a fantastic summer and that you are looking forward to the start of a new school year – I certainly am. It was lovely to meet many of you last year, and I look forward to meeting you all properly as the term progresses. Having worked in the school for well over a year now, I have met and worked with many of the children before, which I feel has helped the children to settle very well into their new class!

Joining us in our journey through Year 3 will be Mrs Kirby; she knows the Year group very well and was a great support during the children's first few days in Year 3. We will also be joined by Irene Calzedda and Mrs Pafford too.

### **Autumn 1 Topic – Mighty Metals**

Our first week back at school centered around our whole school topic on the National Galleries Take One picture: An Experiment on a Bird in the Air Pump. As we move into our first full week back at school, we begin our first topic 'Mighty Metals,' which will see the children learn about forces and magnets, whilst exploring Ted Hughes' novel 'The Iron Man'. I will not divulge too much information about this topic, as we will be inviting you to our topic showcase at the end of this half-term.

### **Autumn 2 Topic – Heroes and Villains**

After October half term (and in the run up to Christmas!) we will begin a new topic to Year 3: Heroes and Villains. During this topic, children will learn about famous villains from the past, and will meet the unsung, everyday heroes from our locality. I will send more information about this topic and it's corresponding trip, towards the end of this half-term.

### **Homework and Spelling Shed Play**

In Year 3 children will receive 1 piece of maths homework and 1 piece of spelling homework to complete each week. Children will take their homework folder home every Monday to be completed and returned by Friday of the same week thus leaving weekends free of homework! Homework club is available to children every Thursday lunchtime and is a club aimed at supporting children should they need a little extra help.

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In a similar format to Year 2, children will receive a termly spelling grid detailing each week's spellings and test date. In year 3, we also enjoy using 'Spelling Shed Play' which is an online tool where children can practice their weekly spelling lists. Children will be given a login so that they can access their spelling lists and associated spelling shed games from home. Whilst using the Spelling Shed at home will not be compulsory, it is a really engaging and fun way for the children to practice their spellings at home in addition to their weekly homework practice! As this resource is an online platform, it can also be accessed on tablets and mobile phones. We will be using Spelling Shed Play in class too so please do not worry if you cannot access this at home! Children's login details will be stuck into both their reading records and homework folders. I have made a brief set of instructions on 'How to use Spelling Shed Play' and have uploaded this to our class page on the school website for more information, although children will be taught how to independently use the resource in the coming weeks too.

### **PE and Swimming**

PE lessons for this half term will take place on Wednesday afternoons with swimming taking place on Friday mornings. Please ensure your child has a full P.E. kit in school on Monday ready for PE lessons during the week. As the weather begins to change, it is advisable to include both shorts and tracksuit bottoms in your child's kit as we will aim to get outside as frequently as possible. For our weekly swimming lessons, children will need a named towel and suitable swim wear. Whilst swimming hats are not compulsory medium/long hair must be securely tied back for safety reasons. Please refer to your original swimming letter or contact the school office if you require further details.

As always, we love to involve parents/carers as often as possible in our learning. The children greatly benefit from volunteers to support curriculum themes, reading and trips. Please do get in touch if you think you can help in any way. Also, please don't hesitate to come and see me if you have any concerns or wish to discuss anything about your child. I wanted to just finish by saying how excited I am to be working with you and your child. It certainly looks set to be a wonderful year, one full of exciting learning opportunities and one I anticipate to be happy and successful for everybody.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Alice Stanley

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