



21st January 2026

YEAR 3 SPRING TERM CLASS LETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy new year! We hope you all had an enjoyable and relaxing break over the holidays.

Curriculum

In **Literacy**, we will be beginning with a focus on 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' by Lewis Carroll. The children will build up to writing narratives to entertain. We will then look at 'Stella and the Seagull' by Georgina Stevens and Izzy Burton. The children will be writing persuasive speeches using rhetorical questions, alliteration and facts and opinions. After half term, we will move onto personal narratives (memoirs) based on 'Jabari Jumps' and 'The Proudest Blue'. To finish the term, we use 'Love that Dog' by Sharon Creech to engage with and write poetry, specifically calligrams.

Handwriting will continue to be taught during short sessions each week as well as being a focus during all written tasks.

For **Spelling**, we will continue to use the ELS Essential Spelling and Word Knowledge scheme during lessons. The children will be set 6-8 words each week as homework relating to the morphemes covered that week. They will also have opportunities to rehearse these at school. Spelling words will include the use of prefixes and suffixes.

We will continue to promote **Reading** in school every day through whole class reading and Literacy lessons, as well as independent reading time. The children may have a banded reading book as well as a free reading book. We encourage children to write about the books they are reading in their reading record as well as having written comments from adults they are reading aloud to. House points are awarded for reading record entries each week. Our whole class reading text in **Wrens** will be 'Planet Omar: Accidental Trouble Magnet'. **Otters** will be reading 'The Witches'.

During **Maths** lessons, we will begin by identifying the properties of 2D shapes and calculating perimeters. We will then move on to units focused on multiplication and division, including times tables and word problems. Following this, the children will develop their understanding of fractions before revisiting and extending their knowledge of multiplication.

Children should continue to practise their **Times Tables** at home as well as at school. This includes the 2, 5 and 10 times tables from Year 2. By the end of Year 3, the children are also expected to be fluent with the 3, 4 and 8 times tables. All children are familiar with Times Table Rock Stars, but are welcome to use alternative methods and websites, for example Hit the Button and Doodle Tables.

Our first **Science** topic this term is forces and magnets. We will spend time investigating push and pull forces, as well as the effect of different surfaces on the speed of a moving object. We will then move on to learning about light in the second half of the term. The children will distinguish between transparent, translucent and opaque materials and explore how shadows are formed.

In the first half term, **Geography** sessions will develop children's understanding of our local area, including natural and human changes that can impact a place. In the second half of term, children will build on this knowledge of St Albans through **History** lessons.

The children will have **PE** lessons twice a week and should come into school in PE kit on those days. On Mondays, they will be working on the skills associated with gymnastics and on Wednesdays we will begin with golf. Please ensure that the children have the appropriate clothing and footwear available at these times, including trainers and jogging bottoms.

Computing lessons will focus on building the skills necessary to create branching databases and using spreadsheets. We will continue to embed online safety curriculum throughout the term. Our online safety themes for this term are Self-image and identity and Health, Well-being and Lifestyle.

In **RE** this term, we will be exploring key religious figures, in particular significant events in the life of Jesus.

Ms. Hayden will take the children for **Music** on a Friday afternoon. They will be looking at local musicians and composing in their own piece in their style.

In **French**, the children will be broadening their vocabulary by looking at musical instruments and thinking about how to build simple phrases and sentences in French.

Homework will continue to be set each Friday on Google Classroom. This will become live at 3pm. The children will be set one piece of Maths each week, a task relating to Reading and spelling words to learn.

Parent Consultation evening – Tuesday 17th and Thursday 29th March – 3.50pm-6.50pm

We will be sending more information regarding booking an appointment closer to the date.

Communication

We recommend that you regularly check the school calendar on the school website for any other events that may occur throughout the term. We will also use the Google Classroom to send updates.

Our class pages on the website are also regularly updated with information about our learning.

[Click here for the Wrens class page](#)

[Click here for the Otters class page](#)

If you have any queries or concerns, please email the relevant teacher via the class email address: otters@stpeters.herts.sch.uk or wrens@stpeters.herts.sch.uk

We will endeavour to reply to you as soon as possible, but please be aware that we will not be able to respond to emails during teaching hours. For any urgent communication, please contact the school office. Please also contact the office about absences and/or different people collecting your child. You can use the email: mychildtoday@stpeters.herts.sch.uk

With kind regards,

Miss Taylor, Mrs Fenn and Mr Watts