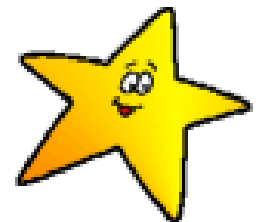
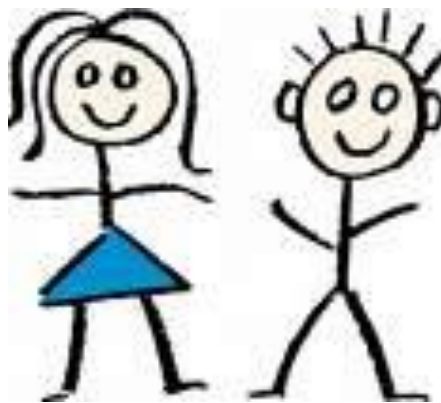




Welcome to the Lower Juniors



Please keep this booklet safe as a reference for over the holiday.

For our soon to be Year 3's, this is one giant leap...

The jump from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2 can often seem a little daunting for both children and parents. Especially so in the current situation! However, we will do everything we possibly can to make this transition as easy as possible.



We also understand that many of our soon to be Year 4's may be feeling anxious about returning to school after so long at home.

We hope this booklet helps to put your minds at rest a little.

Meet the staff!



Year 3

Mrs Calley (teaching Y2MM, Mrs McLoughlin's class)

Miss Halligan (teaching Y2LB, Mrs Boydell's class)

Year 3 will be supported by three wonderful teaching assistants:

Miss McCallion, Mrs Carberry and Mrs Worthington

Year 4

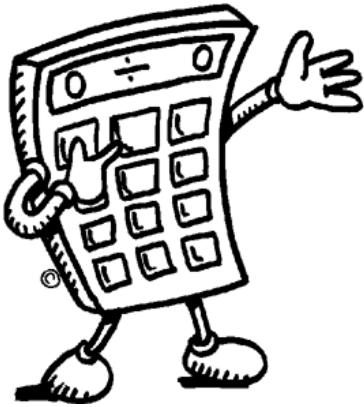
Miss Knowles (teaching Y3LC, Mrs Calley's class)

Mrs McLoughlin (teaching Y3JG, Mr Garry's class)

Year 4 will be supported by four amazing teaching assistants:

Mrs Heyes, Miss Brown, Miss Ward and Miss Flaherty

English and Mathematics



During Years 3 and 4, the children will be placed into set groups across their year group for English and Mathematics. This will enable us to cater more specifically for your child's ability.

In reading lessons, some children will still be following the Read Write Inc Phonics programme to further their reading skills, while others will have progressed onto the Literacy and Language general English scheme.



In mathematics we cover a great deal in Years 3 and 4. Some essential elements include:

- Reading and writing numbers to 1000 (Y3) and beyond (Y4)
- Addition and subtraction using the column method
- Times tables (adding in the 3s, 4s, 6s and 8s in Y3 and all times tables up to 12 x 12 in Y4!) A great way to help with this is to encourage your child to practice on **Times Table Rock Stars**, our new maths game. Also, division-using known multiplication tables to help work out the answer.
- Time- telling the time to the nearest minute!
- Fractions!!! We start to learn how to read fractions, order them and work out fractions of amounts - WOW!

At the end of Y4, Y4 pupils will take the Government's 'Online Multiplication Tables Check'. Pupils will have 6 seconds to answer multiplication questions and type it into the online software. (More information about this test will be given later in the year).

Year Three Topics

We have a great selection of interesting and engaging topics in Year 3 and 4, and (hopefully!) will go on some super trips. These projects give the children an opportunity to learn in creative ways, such as learning through Art and Music. Throughout the year we will also have themed weeks, such as Book Week.

Ferry Across the Mersey'

This is a local history topic all about – you guessed it – Liverpool! We will look at how the city built up over time, and also study the geography of it, including the surrounding rivers. We will even design and build our own mini ferry boats! *If we cross our fingers and hope for the best, we may go on a trip on a real ferry across the Mersey!*



'Kings and Queens'

A fascinating topic all about the Tudor monarchs, and key figures from the Tudor and Stuart time, such as Guy Fawkes.

We also study The Great Plague, The Great Fire of London, and make comparisons to London today.



Science:

We will also cover super science topics on light, magnets, animals, plants and rocks.

Year Four Topics

In year 4, our projects focus on the period of History from 250AD to AD1066. We also explore a South American study, and look at British settlements. These projects give the children an opportunity to learn in creative ways, such as learning through Art and Music. There will also be opportunities (hopefully) for the children to go on school trips. Last year, we were lucky enough to take the children to Chester to explore the daily life of a Roman soldier. The children were able to explore Roman settlements, dress up as Roman soldiers and even charge at the teachers (which was their favourite part of the day).

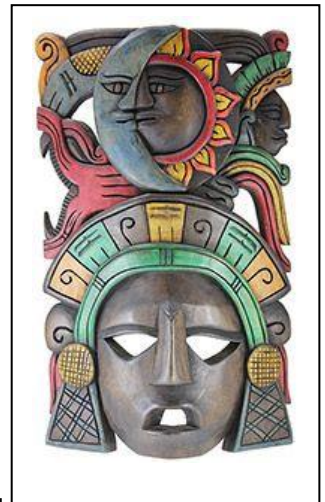
Year 4 projects include:

'Discovery'

History: Mayans (250AD – AD900)

Geography: South American study.

Throughout this topic, the children will look at who were the Mayans? Using atlases, the children will locate and name countries in South America as well as looking at how close South America is to the equator and why this was so important for the growth of Cocoa beans. In Art the children will explore Mayan design and have an opportunity to make their own Mayan Mask.



'Power'

History: Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings (55BC – AD1066)

Geography: UK Settlements.

This topic allows the children to explore how Britain was invaded by a number of groups over time. They will learn how the different invaders would have fought fiercely, using hand combat and compare their weaponry and how each group was successful. The children will become archaeologists looking at different objects from the past, to build a picture of how they used to live.

Hopefully (fingers crossed) we will be able to visit Chester this year, it is a brilliant trip which gives the children a real picture of what Roman life was like and how they have left their mark.



Science

In year 4 we have some very exciting Science topics including: Electricity, Sound, Living things and their habitat, Animals including Humans and Changing States. These are brilliant topics to put your lab coat on and start investigating!



Class Dojo



At Allanson Street we have the highest expectations of our children, both in terms of their learning and their behaviour. We use Class Dojo primarily as a reward system in school.

As you are probably aware, this web based program allows staff to award points / dojos for positive behaviours and remove points for behaviours that need improvement. All 'positive' and 'needs work' dojos are linked to our 8 school values: **Respect, Independence, Kindness, Pride, Integrity, Resilience, Aspiration and Courage.**

How will using Class Dojo help my child to make the best behaviour choices?

- Every week, the child in each class who receives the most dojos will be invited to our special 'Dojo Café' on a Friday afternoon!
- Certificates are given when children achieve their Bronze Award (50 dojos), Silver Award (100 dojos) and Gold Award (150 dojos).
- At the end of each term the children who have been making great behaviour choices are awarded a treat. These include film afternoons, toy days etc. Children need to have achieved a total of at least 100 dojos to receive an invitation to the treat.
- As a long term goal, children need to earn a total of at least 300 dojos across the year to attend the Golden Trip in the Summer term.
- The parents of any child who loses their termly treat, or indeed whose behaviour causes us any concern, will be contacted and plans made to help improve their behaviour.

Using Class Dojo at home:

Class Dojo has been an amazing resource during this period of home learning, and we will continue to use it going forward. From September, we may use it more as a tool to set homework, or to send reminders about various different things. So please do continue to check it regularly.

Home Learning

Your child will receive home learning every week, to help consolidate what they have covered in school.

Spellings

Every week, your child will receive their weekly spelling list, after their spelling lesson (Thursday), which will be stuck into their reading record. It is important that your child practises their spellings daily, in time for their weekly test (Thursday).

Reading

Even though your child may now be an almost fluent reader, we still encourage them to read at least **3 times per week** at home. This could be their school reading book, a library book or a book/comic of their own.

Year 3 and 4 is a lovely time when children really begin to develop their reading preferences, and this is where your support remains vital! Guiding them to try different styles of books and nurturing their love of reading will help them mature into more independent readers. Now could be a great time to get your child their own library card.

All children will be given a new reading book and reading record during the first couple of weeks of September, once we have assessed their reading level. Please encourage your child to bring this into school daily, as adults will read with them throughout the week, and award Dojos for reading at home.

Your child may also receive reading comprehensions to complete at home.

Maths

As outlined on the following page, we predominantly use **Maths Whizz**, **Numbots** and **Times Tables Rock Stars** for Maths homework. Teachers can monitor the time children spend on these programmes in school and at home and will award Dojos for effort every week.

Maths Whizz



'Maths Whizz' is an online tutor (it's amazing). Children use personal log in details to access the interactive homework that has been set for them. Teachers then receive notifications of which children have accessed and completed the homework and how well they have done. Dojos are awarded to children for completing their maths homework.

www.whizz.com



More great websites to access are **Times Table Rock Stars**, and **Numbots**. TTRS helps to build children's fluency of times table facts (perfect for helping to prepare for the Times Tables Check at the end of Y4), while Numbots supports their wider maths skills. These programmes can be accessed at:

<https://trockstars.com/>
<https://play.numbots.com/>

Home Learning Kits

We will be giving every child in Year 3 their own 'Home Learning Kit' to make working at home as easy as possible (our soon to be Y4's received this last year at the beginning of Y3). This will include every piece of equipment they could possibly need to complete their given home learning activities, and a smart new bag.

We expect these kits to last for the whole of your child's time throughout Years 3 and 4, so please encourage your child to keep these safe, and bring them into school regularly.



Snack



Snack will be sold on the Junior playground at morning break time. A variety of snacks are sold including brioche, pancakes, fruit loaf, yoghurt and fruit.

To avoid any loss of money in trays or coats, from September class teachers will collect snack money in the morning, and Mrs Tyrer, who runs the snack shop, will be given a list of children who have paid.

Should you wish to pay weekly, please send your child into school on Monday with £1 – this will allow them to buy one item per day (or two lesser priced items), based on a 20p per day spend.

The children can otherwise pay daily but again they should give their money to their class teacher in the morning to keep it safe.

Alternatively, children can bring their own snack into school and keep it in their box until playtime. Please try to keep this a reasonable size and healthy. We want to avoid their teeth falling out on the playground!!

P.E

We are very lucky in our school. We have PE sessions that will take place in either our school hall, Thompson Centre or on the field. Please make sure your child has the correct PE kit in school every day as PE days/times can change throughout the term.

Please take the kits home during the holidays for a wash and return them to school on the first day of the next term. **Please ensure the kits are clearly marked with your child's name.**



Dropping off and collecting your child

- Just before school closure, we trialled a new system where the children entered school in a morning through different entrances. This will continue from September – so children in Years 3 and 4 will come into school of a morning through the Lower Junior playground door.
- At hometime, children will be collected from this playground too - as in Key Stage One, teachers will lead classes out in lines to ensure that each child is collected by a trusted adult.
- We understand that the transition from one year group to the next can be an anxious time for children and their grown-ups, especially this year. However, it is likely in September that parents will be encouraged to drop their children off at the Lower Junior door, and not enter the corridor themselves, as happened just before school closure. If you need to speak to your child's class teacher, please just let the adult standing at the playground door know, and they will be able to pass on messages for you. Class teachers will always be available to speak to at the end of the school day on the playground.

We hope you have found this booklet and its contents useful. Please feel free to message any of us on Class Dojo with any queries you may have before the end of the academic year, or ring the school office.

We cannot wait to welcome the children back in September. We have missed them more than they will ever know!



The Lower Junior Team

