



Parbold Douglas

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Tuesday 3rd September 2025

CLASS INFORMATION LETTER: YEAR 3 2024/25

Dear Parents and Friends,

We are delighted to welcome your child to Year 3! As we begin the new school year, please find some helpful information below.

The Year 3 team

The teaching team in Year 3 consists of Miss Apter and Mrs Jones.

Our school day

As a reminder, school begins at **8:55am** for all pupils – **please ensure children are consistently punctual so that learning is not missed**. Our classroom door will open from 8:45am and we begin each day with morning maths. Our classroom door will open from 8:45am and we begin each day with a 'Morning Task' as soon as they arrive. Children who arrived at this time last year were most successful due to their daily retrieval of information. Punctuality is also important so that they can start their day in a calm and positive way.

School ends at **3:25pm**.

Attendance

Excellent attendance at school is vital to securing the greatest possible personal development and academic progress for each child. **As we begin the new school year, we expect all families to be committed to excellent attendance.**

What to bring?

Each day, your child should bring a water bottle, snack box and, if needed, a packed lunch. Other items, such as reading books, will also be brought to school regularly. In winter, children will need additional items such as hats and gloves.

School 'book bags' are available from our uniform suppliers. Children can bring their belongings to school in a small backpack.

PE days

Our PE days will be **Tuesday** and **Thursday**. On these days, pupils should attend school in PE uniform (in line with our policy) – other sports clothing is not uniform and should not be worn to school.

For more information about uniform, please see the school website (or the 'September 2025' information letter circulated at the beginning of the summer holidays).

We encourage children to avoid wearing earrings to school. Children who wear earrings must deal with these themselves when preparing for P.E. They must either: leave them at home on P.E. days; provide own plasters and cover the earrings independently or remove them unaided.

Homework

Homework will be set for the first time this Friday (5th September).

Homework is set on a Friday. **Homework must be completed by the start of the school day on the following Thursday.** Homework is not set over school holiday periods. However, we encourage children to continue to read daily.

Each week, children in Year 3 are asked to complete the following:

- **Daily Reading.** We ask children to read daily. The digital reading record on Showbie should be updated regularly (please strive for at least once or twice per week) to help staff in school celebrate and encourage your child's engagement with reading. We encourage children to update these themselves. The digital reading record can be used in a range of ways, many of which can help motivate and engage your child.
- **Spellings.** Alongside our teaching scheme for spelling in school, children are asked to practise spellings at home every week. In Year 3, this is done via the Spelling Shed application. Each Friday, a new spelling pattern is assigned within Spelling Shed. Pupils should log in and practise as much as possible, in readiness for a low-stakes quiz in school the following Thursday. Children can complete a range of spelling challenges within the app, as well as practising using a pencil and paper. Children will learn these same spellings throughout the week in school
- **Times Tables.** Children are asked to use the Times Tables Rockstars application at least once per week (prior to the deadline of Thursday). We recommend a minimum of 15 minutes. Times Tables Rockstars supports children to develop fluent recall of multiplication facts (and corresponding division facts).

School reading books

Children are expected to read every day – they will have a home reading book which they will bring home with them every evening. The children will have the opportunity to change their home reading book as soon as they have finished it. We will use digital reading records on Showbie which will need to be updated at least weekly either by yourselves or by the children - a video tutorial can be found on our website to demonstrate how to use these. Please see the attached homework overview for more information.

Twitter

You can follow our learning journey as a class family via our Twitter page [@PDA_Y3](https://twitter.com/PDA_Y3). Remember, you don't need to have a Twitter account to view our timeline. Just visit our page: https://twitter.com/PDA_Y3
If you are a Twitter user, be sure to 'follow' us.

Curriculum

The Year 3 curriculum map is available on the school website: [Year 3 | Parbold Douglas Church of England Academy \(pda.lancs.sch.uk\)](https://pda.lancs.sch.uk)

We encourage you to refer to the curriculum map so you can talk to your child about their learning.

Communication

We greatly value the relationship we have with you and are usually available at the beginning or end of each day if you wish to speak with us. Please also feel free to email Miss Apter directly: h.apter@pda.lancs.sch.uk. We will respond, during the school week, by email or phone (or will speak to you at collection/drop-off if appropriate). **For more urgent messages during the school day, please email or phone the school office** (e.g. if arrangements have changed in relation to who is collecting your child at home time).

Diary dates

Please refer to the calendar on the school website (and the monthly newsletters) for up-to-date information about upcoming events.

Labelling items

Please ensure all items sent to school are clearly labelled. This significantly improves the likelihood of items returning to the correct child if they are lost or misplaced.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding and the safety of children is our first priority. Our partnership with you, as parents, is an essential aspect of this. If the school has a concern in relation to your child, we will contact you to discuss how we may be able to offer help and support. We strongly encourage you to communicate with us if you have any concerns regarding your children's welfare, including their mental health and emotional wellbeing. The school can often offer or signpost support. You can find more information on the safeguarding page on our website. The school also is part of Operation Encompass. This alerts the school to any domestic abuse/ violence within

the home to help support both the parents and the children. More information on all the above can be found [HERE](#).

Other information

Pupils in Year 3 are taught whole-class music lessons every week by a specialist from Lancashire Music Service. This year, Year 3 have the exciting opportunity to learn to play the Ukulele! To help with pupil learning and progress, children will be provided with their own ukulele to use in school and to take home to practice. **Please ensure that they have their instrument with them for their music lessons in school every Wednesday.**

We are pleased to meet you and very much look forward to working alongside you throughout the year ahead!

With best wishes,
Miss Apter and Mrs Jones

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