



The Orchards Primary Academy

Rhayader Road
Northfield
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West Midlands
B31 1TX

Headteacher: Hayley Carrier

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Year 2 to Year 3 Transition

Dear Parents /Carers,

The transition from KS1 to KS2 can be a big step for some children. Although they are on the same site, they will have to get used to a new building, a new classroom and a new playground all of which can be daunting for some children. In addition to the physical move, there are a number of new skills that children need in KS2. The children won't be expected to master them all at once; their teacher will break them in gently but a helping hand at home can make the transition much easier for your child. We also recognise that the current situation we find ourselves in is surely going to impact on our children, and make this transition an even greater one. To this end, we have put the following together to help you prepare your child for their move from Year 2 to Year 3, as we would normally be doing during the Summer term at school.

Changes and how you can help:

- **New playground:** If your child feels anxious about being in the new playground, encourage them to find a friend to stay with. Also make your child's class teacher aware of their worries so they can make sure that they are not left floundering in the playground.
- **Added responsibility:** Get your child into the habit of unpacking and repacking their school bag themselves the evening before. Prompt them to pass on messages by asking them regularly if there's anything you need to know so that you don't miss anything. The children will also be able to bring their own pencil cases / stationery so encourage them how to take care of this also.
- **Independence:** There are lots of ways to build your child's independence at home, for example by giving them some household responsibilities. If they're stuck on a homework task, don't step in with the solution; instead encourage them to work it out themselves by asking questions to improve their problem solving skills.
- **Concentration:** A good night's sleep and a decent breakfast before school are vital for concentration. The children also need to be well hydrated too so please ensure that they are provided with water bottle for them to have in school each day. You can also improve concentration skills by playing family games that involve focusing on the task in hand, such as Scrabble, Bananagrams and chess.
- **Extended writing:** Provide children with lots of experiences to inform their writing: it's easier to write about what they know. You could also encourage them to keep a diary- this is a great way of practising writing.
- **Choosing reading books:** Get your child used to choosing books that tap into their interests as they can then use this skill to choose books at home. Encourage your child to read to





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- you every day and make them responsible for recording evidence in their home reading diaries.
- Homework: Check your child's homework book regularly. Be available to help with homework but encourage them to work more independently, and that the work they hand in is their own.
- Snacks: The children will be able to purchase snacks at break time such as toast, drinks and even hot sandwiches on a Friday! Ensure that your child is sensible with money and is able to add simple amounts and calculate change etc.

Additional information:

- Bags: Children need to bring a book bag to school every day.
- PE Kit: PE kits should be kept in school during the week and taken home to be washed on a weekend.
- Water: Children are expected to bring in water bottles for use in the classroom- water only please.
- Homework: The children will receive 1 x spellings, 1 x mathematics and 1 x topic (own choice from topic homework grid) per week.
- Home reading: Children should be heard to read at least 3 x per week for about 10/15 minutes, recording the page number in their reading diary. Parents are asked to sign the reading record after each session.
- Hometime: At the end of the day, the children will be released from the Y3 classroom. Please make sure that you remain on the playground and do not approach the door. This is to ensure pupil safety
- Communications: Any information will be sent out via letter, text or email. Please ensure that the office have up to up-to-date details. If you wish to speak with the class teacher, please make an appointment via the school office.
- Rewards: Children will continue to receive team points and celebration assemblies will remain the same.

As well as all of this, the children have been off school for a considerable amount of time due to COVID-19 and this may also cause some anxiety. We will keep you updated with any safety measures required as and when instructed by the government / our Trust sponsor.





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We are currently working on the staffing for September so once again, as soon as this has been finalised, we will share this with you so that you can inform your children.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Stay safe,

Miss Byrne
Assistant Head Teacher and KS1 Lead

