

# Welcome Back Barn Owls!

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely Easter holiday and managed to enjoy lots of family time together with your children. I would like to thank you all for your support during the return to school and praise all your children who settled back in beautifully with their big smiles. If you have any questions or anything you wish to discuss with me, please feel free to approach me on the playground at the end of the school day or arrange a time to pop in and see me via the office email.

## Phonics

Children will continue with phonics lessons during the summer term and spellings will be set weekly. Please ensure your child brings their spelling book into school on a Monday and these will be sent home Wednesdays after quarantine. As there is not quite as much time to learn the spellings between Wednesday and the following Monday, we will set fewer spellings.

Please use the following link to access the sounds in each phonics phase to support your children at home.

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-l-6226-phase-2-to-5-sound-mat-poster>

## Literacy

We will enjoy reading lots of different books this term, both fiction and non-fiction on the themes of growing, weather and the seaside. These link to our science and geography topics too, so lots of cross curricular learning can be fulfilled.

All the children will be:

- writing longer sentences using some conjunctions.
- using full stops and capital letters correctly. Year 1 children will be learning about question and exclamation marks.
- Practice forming letters correctly and on the line.
- listening to the sounds in the words they want to write.
- finding words, they know in a word bank or on the wall.
- putting a space between each word independently.
- finding a purpose for writing in their play (shopping lists, police reports etc). The children often produce some wonderful independent writing in their play and do enjoy sharing their work with me.

## Maths

The children will be covering a lot of different areas of Maths this term through adult led activities and their continuous provision. These include:

- Counting, properties of numbers and number sequences.
- Adding and subtracting across 20 and then to 100.
- Finding missing numbers through inverse operations.
- Measurement and geometry
- Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.
- Division and multiplication – counting and sharing in groups/arrays
- Simple fractions

## Afternoon Curriculum

The children will be learning a variety of skills through written work in our afternoon subjects and accessing continuous provision. Continuous provision allows the children to develop their skills in each area and really show their new found knowledge!

RE	What do Christians believe God is like? Judaism
ICT	Basic computer skills & Coding
Science	Growing 1 <sup>st</sup> half term. Food chains 2 <sup>nd</sup> half.
Humanities (1 <sup>st</sup> ½ term)	Weather
Humanities (2 <sup>nd</sup> ½ term)	Neil Armstrong
Art/DT	Recycling and environmental art followed by sculptures
PE	Invasion games & Dance
PSHCE	Relationships

### **PE**

PE lessons will take place on **Thursday** afternoons. Please ensure that your child has their correct PE kit in school and that everything is labelled. The children will leave their kits at school and bring them home at half term.

### **Reading Books**

It is really important to **read daily with your child** and discuss the book with them. Please sign the reading diary to let us know how it is going. Little and often is key. Children who do this make huge progress and do enjoy sharing their love of books with us. Please do feel free to read your own books from home alongside school reading books. Reading books will continue to be collected in on Mondays and new books will be issued on Wednesdays.

### **Homework Update for Year 1 Barn Owls**

Mathletics will be set for Year 1 Barn owls on a Tuesday and must be completed by the following **Monday**. Please aim to complete 1 or 2 Reading Eggs per week with your child. Some weeks the children may be set a reading comprehension instead of Reading Eggs so do check your child's book bag weekly.

### **Homework Update for Reception Barn Owls**

Barn Owl reception children are encouraged to complete one Mathletics or one Reading Eggs task weekly. Spellings will be sent home on Wednesdays. Please return spelling books on a Monday ready for a short spelling test.

### **Labelling**

Please ensure that all belongings (even sunhats and socks!) are clearly labelled with your child's name. This both helps your child to recognise their name and locate their own belongings, but also enables misplaced items to be easily identified and returned! It is of great benefit to us all when items are labelled and saves huge amounts of time when staff are looking for them. We now have a KS1 lost property box located in the outside area around the back if you need to search for items.

### **Show and Tell**

Show and Tell will continue Tuesdays. Please encourage your child to bring in **something they have made, a piece of writing or a picture** rather than toys. Toys do get lost and broken resulting in tears and we are keen to avoid this. The children love to bring in items they have made and celebrate them with the class. We do love books as well 😊

### **Stationery**

Thank you for all the generous donations of stationery from last term. The children do put everything to good use, in particular whiteboard pens where they have been demonstrating their new love for writing during continuous provision on our mini whiteboards. I have seen football scores, shopping lists and treasure maps! All fantastic examples of independent writing. Therefore, stationery for Barn Owls is very much appreciated as it enables the children to develop skills they will use in many years to come. **Please continue to send in any donations**, for example extra glue sticks, whiteboard pens, high quality pencils or rubbers as they enable us to provide even better opportunities for your children. If you happen to see any going cheap in the supermarkets or have any spare at home, then please send them in.

Year 1 Barn Owls and Snowy Owls may continue to use their own pencil case in line with the rest of the school.

Finally, a big thank you for all your support during the last few weeks. It's fair to say all the children have shown great resilience and I thank you all for your efforts with home/school learning. I very much look forward to teaching your children face to face during the summer term. Mrs Steere will continue to teach Barn Owls on Thursdays.

We look forward to watching your children continue to develop during the summer term.

Mrs Thomson, Mrs Steere and the KS1 team.