

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely Easter holiday and managed to enjoy lots of family time together with your children enjoying the outdoors. I look forward to hearing about the children's activities. Thank you all for your kind messages and Easter treats.

Phonics update:

We are delighted to introduce a new phonics scheme to KS1 called Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised. The children are already making great progress and we shared some information about this at our recent meeting for Reception parents. You can read about Little Wandle here <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

The children in Year one will be working towards their phonics test this term and below is a brief overview of the sounds they will need to know. Practice little and often, just five minutes a day makes a huge difference and their confidence will grow too.

We will continue to have phonics everyday with Reception and Year one children.

Phonics

The children will continue learning new sounds in their phonics groups each week. The Year 1 children will be taking their Phonics test during June, I have put all the sounds that will be in the test below so that you are able to spend time practising these regularly (in real and nonsense words) with your children. To achieve their ELG in reading, Year R children should be able to read all the Phase 3 sounds.

Phase 3 sounds – qu, ch, sh, th, ng, ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er

Phase 5 sounds – ay, ou, ie, ea, oy, ir, ue, aw, wh, ph, ew, oe, au, a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e, u-e

New pronunciations for known graphemes: i (fin, find), o (hot, cold), c (cat, cent), g (got, giant), u (but, put (in south of England), ow (cow, blow), ie (tie, field), ea (eat, bread), er (farmer, her), a (hat, what), y (yes, by, very), ch (chin, school, chef), ou (out, shoulder, could, you)

Literacy

We will enjoy reading lots of different books this term, both fiction and non-fiction. Books will include a seaside theme, habitats, homes and poems including list poems. These link to our science and history topics too, so lots of cross curricular learning can be fulfilled.

All the children will:

Reception	Year 1
Begin to form letters correctly	Form letters correctly and on the line
Say a short sentence out loud and writing some words using sound talking. Example c -a -t (say it, write it) Children use a phonics mat to support them with writing.	Write sentences independently and including conjunctions to extend their writing. Example: The dog was cross and the cat was happy. The dog was cross because the cat hid his bone.
Begin to identify capital letters and full stops in a text.	Use capital letters and full stops correctly.
Find a purpose for writing in their play (shopping lists, police reports etc). The children often produce some wonderful independent writing in	Put a finger space between words and write for a purpose. For example, write a story about a favourite character or retell an event that they have enjoyed during the holidays.

their play and do enjoy sharing their work with adults.	
Identify rhyming words through games and activities	Write a list poem based on a familiar story

Maths

Reception	Year 1
To 20 and beyond – making groups of numbers	Multiplication and division
Doubles and halves	Fractions
Position and direction – spatial reasoning	Position and direction
Place value and making number stories using addition and subtraction	Place value within 100
Patterns all around us	Money
Time – Night/day. What do I do in the morning, lunchtime/evening?	Time

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!

If you are a Year 1 parent/carer, please view the half termly snapshot sheet for more details about the Year 1 curriculum.

RE	What do Christians believe God is like? Judaism
ICT	We are story tellers We are celebrating
Science	Exploring everyday materials Animals – Habitats and homes
Humanities (1 st ½ term)	Homes from the past
Humanities (2 nd ½ term)	Seasides and coasts
Art/DT	Artists and their different styles/techniques Mother nature in art
PE	Dance
Music	Classical/ Zootime
PSHE	Relationships Changing me

P.E.

PE lessons will take place on **Thursday** afternoons. The children will continue to enjoy PE with Mr Smith and Mrs Mussell. The children really do look forward to P.E and both Mr Smith and Mrs Mussell have enjoyed watching their progress. Please ensure that your child has their correct P.E. kit in school and that **everything** is labelled. The children will leave their kits at school and bring them home at half term. We still continue to have items of PE kit unnamed and with 30 children getting changed it can be tricky to ensure all items go in the

correct bag. Do encourage your children to get dressed/undressed themselves as this is a vital skill. Its also great for fine motor development 😊

Reading books

It is really important to read daily with your child. Do encourage them to sound out the words and try to read for themselves. This will really help to develop their confidence with reading in preparation for Year 1 and 2. Please sign the reading diary to let us know how this is going. Little and often is key. Children who do this, make huge progress and do enjoy sharing their love of books with us. In line with our new Little Wandle phonics scheme, the children will bring home reading books that link to the phonic phase they are currently being taught. These books can be decoded and sounded out. The children will also bring home one story book you can read to them and enjoy together.

The children will now be completing 3 guide group reading sessions in school (10 minutes per session) each week to develop decoding, blending and comprehension skills.

Homework update

Mathletics will be set on a Tuesday and must be completed by the following **Monday for all children in Barn Owls**. <http://uk.mathletics.com/signin/>

Do aim to complete one reading eggs weekly - the children do enjoy this activity. Complete more if your child is keen!

Year 1 spelling books must be returned to school every **Monday morning** for homework to be marked and for the children to complete their weekly spelling test.

Children in **Reception** will have a few spellings to learn after May half term and in preparation for Year 1.

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 huge benefit to us all when items are labelled and saves huge amounts of time.

Show and Tell

Show and tell will continue to be on Tuesday afternoons. Please ensure your child brings items of educational value rather than toys which can get lost or broken resulting in tears. We do welcome models including those made from Lego but not every week as it is important the children vary their discussions regarding their items.

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 pencil cases

Thank you for providing your year 1 child with a clear pencil case. Last term many of the pencil cases had so much in them that the children couldn't quite get all the equipment they needed to begin learning! As a guide, 3 x writing pencils 1x whiteboard pen, a rubber, glue stick, scissors and ruler is all that is required. We have plenty of colouring pencils, crayons and pens at school the children can use. Clear pencil cases are used by all children in the school.

Staff

Mrs Youngman and Mrs Barker will be working with Barn Owls during the summer term and Mrs Mann will join us on a Friday afternoon. Mrs Payne will continue to teach Barn Owls on a Thursday morning.

Helpers needed please

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with making puppets last term in art and those who helped during the sports trips. The children were thrilled and it was fantastic to have the local community back into school.

We are looking forward to welcoming any volunteers back into school after Covid and would be delighted if you were able to volunteer to help listen to children in Barn Owls read. This regular practice is very important and it is such a wonderful activity to enjoy books together. If you would like to volunteer (9 – 9.30 a.m or 2.30 – 3 p.m), please email the school office.

We always look forward to watching your children enjoy the brighter days and thrive during the summer term.

Kind regards,

Mrs Thomson and the KS1 team