

Welcome to Barn Owls



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to all pupils in Barn Owls! We hope you have had a wonderful summer. The children have already begun settling into new routines at school. We had a tour of the school led by Year 1 pupils and Reception pupils have enjoyed exploring both the indoor and outdoor areas of KS1 and are making new friends.

All the children have made a positive start coming into school and we know this can be a daunting time for parents. Please rest assured for any children who find this part of the day difficult, the children settle quickly once inside the classroom, and we have a team of wonderful KS1 staff who support them all in this process.

This letter will explain how Barn Owls will run and what your children will be doing this term. If you have any questions or anything you wish to discuss, please do come and speak to me at the end of the day or email the office and I will get back to you. It is difficult to speak to parents at the beginning of the day as my focus is getting the children into class and settled. If you need to pass on any information that may affect your child's day, please email this to the office and they will get a message to me.

Literacy

Phonics

Curzon follows the Little Wandle phonics programme. Parents can find more information here:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Year 1 and Reception (Reception) children will have daily phonics lessons to help improve their reading, spellings and writing. Year 1 Barn Owls will have spellings for the week which correspond with the sound they are learning in sessions according to Little Wandle.

Reception children will not receive spelling homework until later in the year when they have settled and learnt a larger bank of sounds.

We will be reading lots of familiar traditional stories this term looking at repetitive rhymes and patterns.

Year 1 objectives	Reception objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Orally compose a simple sentence.Begin to write a simple sentence independently using a sound mat or word bank to find the letters/words you need.Through teacher modelling, children will begin to learn about leaving finger spaces between words, using a capital letter and full stops beginning to form simple sentences with correct letter formation.Read your sentence back to an adult.Write short labels and captions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Re tell a familiar story to peers and adults using puppets and role play.Join in with repeated phrases in stories.Practise letter formation.Draw a character from a story and colour it.Write and recognise own name.Enjoy books, rhymes and familiar stories.

Maths

Year 1 objectives	Reception objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Explore all the different representations of number 0-20 with a deep understanding of numbers to 10.Begin to write numbers 0-10 and 11 – 20 with the correct formation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Explore numbers 0-5 and their different representations.Experiment sorting objects into groups of corresponding colours, size or shape.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiment with different ways to make groups of corresponding colours, size or shape. • Place value and ordering. • Say one more or one less than a number. • Compare groups using equal to more/less, greater/fewer. • Begin to use a number track. • Properties and arrangements of shape. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subitizing (Knowing two on a dice represents 2 without counting) • One to one correspondence. • One more/one less. • Position and simple shape work.
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The rest of the curriculum at a glance

RE	Who made the world? Special Occasions Why does Christmas matter to Christians?
Computing	E safety We are treasure hunters. We are TV chefs
History (1st half term)	George Stephenson and Vehicles
Geography (2nd half term)	Local area and safety
Art/DT(1st half term)	Colours art
DT(2nd half term)	Vehicles
PE	Multi skills (1st half term) Dance (2 nd half term) Gross motor skills and activities across the floor.
PSHE	Being me in my world Celebrating differences
Science	Animals – People and Pets (1st half term) Seasonal Changes- Weather (2nd half term)
Music	Hey You! Nativity songs

Please see the half termly map for more detail under the curriculum tab on the school website.

PE

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

Reading books

Year 1 children should have bought home some reading books with their reading record by now. Over the next few weeks, Reception children will be bringing books home too. Reading records and books will be collected in on Mondays and new books sent home on **Tuesdays** with their reading record. In line with our 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.

Please read with your child as often as possible and record it in their reading record as per the letter provided for information. This helps develop a love of reading and a passion for books! Regular reading support at home makes a real difference to your child's progress.

Guided reading

Three times a week the children take part in group guided reading sessions in line with our phonics programme, Little Wandle. Reception will begin these sessions once they have settled into school life and Year 1 during early September. Children will read the same text over three sessions focusing on sound/word reading, prosody and comprehension. More information can be found on the Little Wandle website.

Year 1 home learning

Year 1 homework will be set on a **Tuesday** and is to be returned the following Monday. The children will be set spellings, literacy and maths work. Literacy and maths will be Mathletics and Reading Eggs but occasionally I will set paper homework which can be found in your child's book bag. Please email the school office if you do not have the relevant log in information.

Please use the look, cover, write and check method to help your child learn their spellings. Children in Year 1 will have a weekly spelling test on a Monday during the phonics session.

Reception home learning

Reception homework will start later in the year once children have become more settled into school. However, they will soon be coming home with Mathletics and

Reading Eggs passwords so do encourage them to log on and have a go at some of the activities.

<https://www.mathletics.com/uk/>

<https://readingeggs.co.uk/>

Water bottles

Please ensure that your child has a named and filled water bottle each day so they can help themselves to a regular drink. This will be sent home at the end of the day for washing and refilling. We request that the bottles are filled with water only and no other drinks. It is also helpful if they have flip lids rather than screw tops. Heavy duty screw top bottles tend to get dropped and broken. It is important your child can use their water bottle themselves, so they feel a sense of achievement.

Labelling

Please ensure that **all** belongings (uniform, coats, book bags, snack boxes, water bottles etc) are clearly labelled with your child's name. This helps your child to recognise their name and locate their own belongings. It also enables misplaced items to be easily identified and returned. Many parents also place a keyring on their child's bookbag to enable their child to identify it.

Show and Tell

To develop the children's communication and language skills, we are planning to have a Show and Tell session on Tuesday afternoons when children can bring in an item from home to talk about to the class. This can be an item relating to one of our afternoon subjects or something of educational interest, such as a book about dinosaurs/space/travel etc. Please **do not** send your child in with their favourite toy as it could easily be lost or broken causing tears. We will not allow the children to show toys. If your child is feeling quite shy, they do not have to take part and they can just watch until they feel more confident.

Stationery

We still really appreciate donations from parents of resources for all the children to use, for example extra glue sticks, whiteboard pens or rubbers so if you happen to see any going cheap in the supermarkets or have any spare at home please send them in with your child at any point throughout the year. We will be asking children for any stationery they have brought in during the few first weeks and collating this together into a shared resource for the class later on in the year.

Barn Owl staff

We are fortunate to have two teaching assistants (TAs) working in the class on a regular basis.

Mrs Youngman: TA
Mrs Barker: TA

Monday to Friday
Monday to Friday

Mrs Youngman is also the Barn Owls mid-day supervisor. Mrs Wronka will assist in Barn Owls on a Friday afternoon and is looking forward to getting to know the children.

On a Thursday morning the children will be taught by Mrs Hyndman. She has a wealth of experience in early years. I will be in class on Thursday afternoons.

Meet the teacher We look forward to seeing you at our meet the teacher evening on Wednesday 27th September at 7pm.

The team look forward to working in partnership with you during the year ahead.

Mrs Thomson and the Barn Owls' team.