



NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2018

Year 1



Welcome

Welcome back! We hope you have had a great summer holiday and that all the children are now raring to go! Here is our Autumn term newsletter which provides details of this term's curriculum activities. This term there will be lots of exciting practical learning opportunities to help the children settle and make the transition from Foundation Stage into the National Curriculum. It will also be an important 'getting to know you' time for us all as we begin our Year 1 journey.

Year 1 Staff

Mrs Hurlock will be teaching the children on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Mrs Partridge will be teaching the children on Thursday and Friday.

The other adults supporting the children's learning are:

Mrs Moore, Mrs Steward and Mrs Farrow

If you would like any further information or need to discuss your child's learning, at any point throughout the year, please do make an appointment to see us after school.

Book Change Days & Homework

Your child's reading diary is a useful communication tool for any non urgent matters. Please take time to check it daily. We do check all diaries, but if you have a message for us in a diary, please prompt your child to bring it to us in the morning.

Home reading books will be changed once a week on a Tuesday. Children will receive two books for the week. Books will not be changed unless an adult at home has recorded in the child's diary that the whole book has been completed. A short comment about how your child coped with the book would also be useful.

Children will read in guided reading groups (GR) where the children will share the same book with an adult in a small group. This is in addition to the many other reading opportunities that the children will engage in throughout the school day. Guided reading and daily phonics sessions together, provide children with the tools they need to become confident, independent readers. They learn to use these skills from regular 'little and often' opportunities to practise them. Therefore it is vital that the children read daily at home to build their reading confidence. This can include reading sight vocabulary games as well as their home reading book.

In addition to daily reading the children will have Maths homework set every Friday and due in the following Thursday. This is to support learning objectives from the Maths going on in class that week. Spellings will be set every Friday, linked to our phonics scheme with a quiz the following **Thursday**. Our weekly phonics focus will also be communicated in your child's reading diary. Please make sure spelling books and maths homework are in school on Thursdays to help with this system.

Thank you for your supporting your child's learning at home.

Sports

A reminder that all children are expected to wear the correct sports/PE kit in school. This consists of a plain white T-shirt (plain or with school logo), red shorts and black pumps, (please check the size!). PE kits should remain in school every day and will be sent home half termly. An outdoor sports kit (dark blue or black tracksuit, white T-shirt and trainers) will also be required. If your child has pierced ears, please make sure they are removed on **Wednesdays and Thursdays** when we have PE.

Wellie Wednesdays

The children will have outdoor learning opportunities every Wednesday morning whatever the weather. Please provide wellies and a waterproof coat which can be kept in school, or brought in on Wednesdays. **This will commence from Wednesday 12th September.**

This term our topic is 'Barford and Beyond'

ENGLISH: We will be communicating through labels, lists, signs and in simple sentences; making our own alphabet books, and reading stories with repeating patterns. We will also be looking at stories with contrasting locations. Throughout this term we will be looking at decoding by segmenting and blending in reading, in addition to continuous phonics, handwriting and spelling.

MATHEMATICS: We will begin thinking about, and using, concrete (objects) and pictorial approaches in all areas of maths. These will include counting ordering and comparing numbers in the number system; addition and subtraction thorough big maths investigations, problem solving + and - statements including missing number problems; recognising 2D and 3D shapes and describing position and movement including whole, half and quarter turns.

SCIENCE: Our topic is 'Materials.' The children will learn about the names of common materials and their properties and uses. We will be linking this to our observations of homes in the village and our school building.

GEOGRAPHY: We will be looking at our local area and developing our observation and fieldwork skills. We will be using directional language including left and right, forwards and backwards, North, South, East and West. We will be learning about features of Barford and towns in the surrounding area. We will also be thinking about where food comes from and how it arrives in our homes!

HISTORY: We will be looking at people and places in the children's own locality and considering changes during their own lifetimes. (We will be focussing on the current changes within the school building and have arranged a visit from the site manager to discuss how the school will be altered.)

ART: We will be exploring mark making in drawing and colour mixing in painting and creating our own Barford collages.

DT: We will be focussing on the children's technical knowledge - building strong structures of Barford bridge and the local buildings; exploring how they can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable.

ICT: The children will learn about keeping safe when using information technology. Our topic will link with our geography, where children will have opportunities to look at our local area using technology, develop directional language using a programmable toy and build using 3D software.

MUSIC: We will explore rhythm and pulse through speech and body percussion focussing on counting syllables and word rhythm patterns. We will also be listening and responding to a range of music.

PE: In our two PE sessions each week, we will be learning tennis skills and core ball skills.

RE: We will be looking at creation stories through the Christian and Jewish faiths and thinking reflectively about our wonderful world.

SMCS: We will explore the importance of trying new things, taking risks and being independent learners. Linking with our bodies in Science, we will also follow the 'Taking Care' project to keep ourselves safe and consider networks for sharing information to keep safe.

We are looking forward to a fun packed term with lots of hard work and high expectations. Please do not hesitate to contact us if there are any issues that may arise or you have any questions. If you need to communicate with teachers specifically in the morning, please speak to, or pass on letters to, the teaching assistant on duty at the school entrance.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Hurlock & Mrs Partridge

Year 1 Teachers