



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! Karen and I hope you all had a great Easter break with your families and loved ones. We are now in our final term of the school year and I hope everyone is ready for the term ahead.

This handout will inform you of the curriculum content your child will be studying this term as well as the day to day routines and procedures. Most of you will be familiar with the routines and ways I do things in Year One but please read to find out more.

Routines

Homework

Your child's homework will continue to be set out on Google Classroom on a Wednesday evening and this work should be completed in your child's homework book and a photo of their homework uploaded onto Google Classroom by the following Wednesday morning.

Spellings will be tested on the Wednesday and new homework uploaded on Google Classroom.

There is a spelling aspect of homework where children will be given tasks (typically 1 or 2) to complete based on their spelling words for that week (5 words normally other than big spelling tests after holidays)

Children will be expected to complete maths homework using Mathletics and NumBots. This will be regularly checked and I will assign new tasks regularly on Mathletics and set due dates for them to be completed. For NumBots, this is an online platform that progresses as your child's activity and responses improve. They should be going on for 5-minute periods a few times a week. (15 minutes ideally a week, if not more would be great for their mental maths skills. Login details are found on the front of your child's homework book. If you need them again, please contact me on Goggle Classroom privately.

Please encourage your child to complete their homework independently. At this stage in the school year, children should be trying to develop their sentences and ideas using adjectives, conjunctions and sentence openers as well as things they have learning in writing sessions in class.

On some occasions, homework may be set that is related to other areas of the curriculum and work covered in class.

Spellings

Spellings (5 words) are uploaded onto Google classroom as part of homework on a Wednesday evening. These words should be learnt throughout the week for a spelling test the following Wednesday. You will receive your child's spelling result in their reading record each week (these need to be in school every day) If your child's reading record is not in school on a Wednesday, you will not receive their spelling result for the test.

Reading

Your child will be given a stage/phase book that will be taken home with them. There is no set day for changing books as children will be read to at different points in the week. To facilitate this; please ensure your child's reading folder with their reading book and reading record is in their book bag every day. It is very important to hear your child read out loud each day and ask them questions about what they have read to check their understanding and develop their comprehension skills. (See questions inside their Reading Record)

Their school reading book can be read more than once to ensure they cannot only read the words but most importantly, understand what it is about. Please remember to record the date and page number along with your signature. This helps us monitor your child's progress.

In Key Stage One, we expect 3 signatures a week as well as one written comment using the KS1 reading comprehension skills sheet that is in the front of your child's reading record. If you read other stories please feel free to write them in your child's reading record too. I strongly encourage children to read other books from home or the library in addition to the stage book sent home from school.

As well as one-to-one reading, whole class reading will take place where children have opportunities to answer questions and discuss the texts with their peers. As well as this, children will complete reading comprehension tasks in class.

At Boutcher, we promote a reading for pleasure environment and ensure that children have opportunities to choose texts more freely. Your child will spend time in our class reading corner and also have a weekly visit to the school library. Our library visit will take place on **Wednesday** so please ensure that, if your child borrows a library book, they have it in school on this day to be returned so that another book can be chosen to take home and enjoy. Please make sure your child returns their library book as it is very costly to the school when they are misplaced.

Uniform

Please ensure all items of your child's uniform are clearly labelled with their name to ensure they can be easily recovered if lost and minimise the cost of replacement. I often find jumpers and cardigans with no name in around the school which makes it very difficult to return them to the rightful owner.

A child's book bag with their reading folder (with reading record and book in) is considered to be school uniform and must be in school each day. Children using a Boutcher book bag rather than a rucksack makes it easier to store in the classroom and get access to readily. Water bottles should be brought into class with your child's name on.

Please ensure your child is wearing correct school uniform and following the guidelines for hair bow/band colours etc.

On PE days, we are continuing with children coming to school dressed in their full PE kit on their PE days. School uniform is not needed on these days. Children will not be required to wear PE kit on Tuesdays and Thursday if I write a post on Google Classroom or you are contacted by the school office. This won't happen often.

For Year One, these days are: **Tuesday and Friday**

PE Kit is as follows:

- Plain white T shirt or polo shirt with plain navy-blue jogging bottoms or leggings (no logos).
- Children should wear their school jumper or cardigan too.
- Children should wear black, navy or white trainers.

Curriculum

This term your child will be learning the following:

Writing

We will continue a book-based approach to the teaching of our English. For the first half of the term, we will be looking at non-fiction books about life cycles in our reading sessions and will be exploring the features of non-fiction texts. For the second half of the term, we will be reading a range of poetry and exploring vocabulary (rhyming and language style) and looking at the way poetry engages us. In our writing based English lessons, we will be using the text, Astro Girl to explore the literary theme of journeys and exploration. We will then go on to use the text, Iggy Peck Architect to explore the literary theme of imagination and creativity. In writing lessons, children will be learning or consolidating skills in phonics, grammar, punctuation, reading and handwriting.

Maths

This term, we will build on our knowledge of place value (tens and ones). We will be counting in ones (forwards and backwards from a given number) as well as counting on in 2s, 5s and 10s. We will be building on our calculation skills and focus on simple ways to share (the start of division). We will be looking at fractions- whole, halves and quarters. We will begin to learn about the time (o'clock and half past) and use money when adding and subtracting.

Please get your children to recall their number bonds to 10 and 20. This is something we work in class and play games like (Hit the Button) to develop our rapid recall of them. It is essential that children are learning their number bonds by heart as well recalling the related addition and subtraction facts to 20 (fact families).

Religious Education

Our RE focus for the first part of the term is: 'Who is the saint of our school's church?'

As part of our learning about another world faith, Year 1 will be learning about Islam and finding out about what it means to be a Muslim.

Services

Key Stage One services are at 9:40am in the school hall on Tuesday mornings. Please feel free to join us for these as we continue with our theme on family, learning more about the people that are in God's family. Some of those Christians are in our local community and some Christians from the past.

Year 1 will be leading service on: Tuesday 3rd May and Tuesday 24th May

Science

We will be continuing with our learning about animals including humans and learning about a variety of common animals and finding out about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. We will be identifying the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with which sense.

We will be looking at the seasonal changes during Spring and Summer. Children will observe and describe the weather across these seasons. They will learn about how day length varies, according to the time of year.

Theme (Including History, Geography, Art and DT)

We will be doing a history topic about explorers and inventors. We will be finding out about some significant individuals from the past and finding out about the life as explorers or inventors.

We will look at an artist study on George Seurat.

PSHE

We will be looking at 'Relationships' and 'Changing me' as part of our Jigsaw learning.

Music

Children will have African drumming lessons each week on a Wednesday afternoon.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 3rd May- Year 1 service (9:40am)

Tuesday 24th May- Year 1 service (9:40am)

There will be a Phonics Screening Check workshop for parents- date TBC

Please check the newsletter each week for other important dates or events.

Please have a look at our class page on the school website.

As always, if you have any questions regarding any of the information in this letter, or any other matter of concern, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am available at the end of the day to answer quick questions; however, appointments can be made via the school office to discuss any lengthier matters or concerns. If you wish to send me a private comment on Google Classroom, I will try and respond as soon as I can.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Miss Dixon