

## Byland Class Newsletter - Autumn Term 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school - we hope you have had a lovely, relaxing summer break. Thank you for all the lovely gifts we received at the end of term; it was very kind of you and much appreciated.

A very warm welcome to all our new pupils and parents to Sessay Primary School; we are very much looking forward to working with you.

Our main topic this term is **Explorers**, we will look at daily weather patterns here and compare them to the North and South Pole. We may learn about Pirates along the way if the children's interests allow!

In **Science** we will be learning about Seasonal Changes which will involve looking at how plants and animals adapt to the changing climate. We will look at which animals hibernate and how they prepare themselves for this.

In **English** we will be focusing on our phonics work.

The Year 1 children will start with a thorough re-cap of phase 3 and phase 4 sounds and tricky words, before moving onto phase 5; this phase sees the introduction of the alternative ways of writing (graphemes) the sounds already learnt. For example the sound ee can be written as ea as in meat, ie as in thief and with a letter in the middle as in theme. The children will be learning how to correctly form and punctuate sentences within these sessions and there will be a focus on handwriting and neat presentation.

Reception children will take part in lots of **phonics sessions** tuning them into sounds around them before learning 'sounds' and learning to read.

In **Maths** we will start with lots of number recognition and place value and ordering before moving onto addition, subtraction and shape later in the half term. Please continue to log into Mathletics as much as possible, this is a vital tool to enable your child to learn key instant recall facts, number bonds and doubles. We will send everyone their log in details again to ensure you all have them, please print of certificates of achievement to share on a Friday assembly.

In **RE** we will be thinking about 'How we show we care?' and Harvest through circle time activities.

Our **PE** lessons will be on a Thursday afternoon and will be led by a coach from the Simon Carson sports school. Depending on the weather and activity, the sessions will take place either in our school hall or outside on the playground/ field, so please ensure sure your child has both an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school.

Please ensure that all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name and if you could provide us with some wellies to stay in school that would be fantastic!

### **Homework**

**Reception** children will bring their Learning Journeys home on a Friday - please add photographs and any drawings the children do over the weekend ready for them to talk about on a Monday morning. Sounds and reading books will follow.

**Yr1** - In addition to reading at home, the children will receive weekly spellings to learn each Friday which will be tested the following Friday. They will also bring home a weekend diary to record their activities with pictures/achievements over the weekend ready to write their weekend news on Monday morning. Please note this is not like a Reception learning Journey and we will not contribute to this as staff.

### **Reading**

Once the Reception children start learning their sounds, they will be read with 1-1 twice per week starting with sound recognition and blending practise before moving onto books.

The Year 1 children will be read with 1-1 once per week and will participate in one guided reading session each week.

### **We are changing our routine with book changing in Yr 1:**

Children will all have their books changed once a week by a member of staff after they have been read with (if it has been practised at home) if you would like your child's books changing more regularly than this there will be an opportunity for them to do so on a morning first thing during **8.45-8.50**, please don't expect to come in and change your child's book if you turn up to school late as this will disturb learning time. It is up to the children to do this change independently and then let a member of staff know so we can keep a record. If you would like to help your child initially please feel free to come in and do so, but hopefully Year 1 will soon become independent in doing this.

As always if there is anything you wish to discuss we are always available, please pop in!

Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Bennison ☺