

Byland Class Newsletter - Autumn Term 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school - we hope you have had a lovely 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.

In our **topic** work this half term the children will be investigating how toys have changed over the past few years. They will compare toys of today to those of the past, thinking about materials from which they are made and changes in technology. They will then have the opportunity to firstly design and then make their own toy from the past.

In **Science** we will be looking at **Everyday Materials** such as wood, plastic, glass, metal and rock. We will be observing, comparing and sorting these different materials based on their physical properties and we will be thinking about why certain materials are used for particular purposes.

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. Phase 5 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. Reception children will initially take part in some early phonics work to develop their listening, vocabulary and speaking skills. This will include activities such as listening walks, action songs, learning rhymes and playing games such as I spy. We will then begin learning 'sounds' with lots of blending practise.

In **Maths** we will start with lots of number recognition and place value work before moving onto addition later in the half term. Please practise maths at home using **Mathletics** as much as possible. This is a vital tool to develop your child's mental maths skills through fun activities. We will send everyone their log in details again to ensure

you all have them. Please print certificates of achievement to share in Friday's collective worship.

Our PE lessons will be on Monday and Thursday afternoons. Depending on the weather and activity, the sessions will take place either in our school hall or outside on the playground / school field. Please ensure that your child has both an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school which is clearly labelled with their name.

In RE we will be thinking about what Christians believe in and we will learn about some Christian symbols. We will then move onto Harvest celebrations.

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 in which to record their activities and achievements over the weekend ready to write their weekend news on a Monday morning. This could be a picture of what they have been doing with some key words or photographs.

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.

Y1 children will be read with once 1-1 and will participate in one guided reading session per week. The children will have their books changed once per week after reading with a member of staff and practising their book at home. If you would like your child's books changing more regularly than this, there will be an opportunity for them to change their books each morning before registration. The children will change their books independently in this time and let a member of staff know so we can keep an up to date record. If you would like to help your child initially, please feel free to come in and do so, but hopefully they 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 Bennison and Mrs Wells ☺