



Byland Class Newsletter - Autumn Term 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! We hope you and your families are all well and have had a lovely Summer break. We look forward to a healthy and COVID free half term- fingers crossed!

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 initially will be 'Ourselves' and 'Our Local Area'. We will start by looking at our families and creating self- portraits by looking at the features on our faces. We will then move onto our houses and where we live. This will include going on a local walk around the village. We will then move onto 'Toys' before half term, we will look at toys from the past and compare them to the toys we play with today.

In **Science** we will be start by naming and labelling the parts of the body and investigating how we are all different. We will spend time learning how to keep ourselves happy and safe, and look at ways we can keep our bodies healthy. We will then move onto learning about Seasonal Change starting with autumn. We will look at the changes to the weather, environment, our daily lives and to animals that the autumn season brings.

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

The Year 1 children will start with a thorough re-cap of their phonic sounds and tricky words, working in small groups. They 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.

This term **PE** will be on a Thursday. Please bring your child's PE kit in a named bag with both indoor and outdoor kit into school this week. Please provide dark joggers, hoodie and trainers.

In **RE** we will be thinking about 'What is a Christian and what do they believe?' We will look at stories about Jesus and stories that Jesus told.

Forest School sessions will take place on Monday afternoons with Mr Houghton. The children should bring with them warm outdoor clothing (joggers/ thicker socks) their school uniform on the top half

is fine including coat and layers. Please provide a pair of named wellies to be worn for Forest School and for use in our outdoor area. Ideally, wellies should be left in school.

Homework

Reception learning journeys will come home on a weekend and we will be sending you observations via 'Evidence Me' which is an online assessment tool. As parents please add observations onto Evidence Me or in their learning journeys, this is very important for us to see what the children have been doing at home. This is a vital part of your child's assessment and we would expect to see some form of involvement from yourselves over the weekends. Your children will enjoy sharing these experiences with the rest of the class on a Monday morning! Log in details to follow. We will also send sound books and reading books in due course.

Yr1 - In addition to reading at home, the children will receive weekly spellings to learn each Friday which will be tested the following Friday. The spellings will be uploaded onto Google Classroom each Friday. Please ensure that you have access to your Google Classroom and let us know if there are any problems.

Spelling shed log ins will also be distributed to support children with spelling patterns in due course.

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. We have an Early Literacy Evening planned for later this half term to explain how our phonics and reading schemes work. (Most probably via Zoom)

Y1 children will also be read with twice 1-1 moving onto guided reading next half term. The children will have their books changed 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.

Class Dojo is now set up and most parents are connected (Receptions will be sent a link this week) this is for Reception and Year 1 parents to see what we have been up to and for little notices to be issued. We can easily add pictures as and when we have exciting things to share about what we have been doing in class. However, please don't expect to see your child on every upload as it is just not possible to get them all each time.

As always, if you have any questions or queries please feel free to contact a member of the Byland team via our class E-mail byland@sessay.n-yorks.sch.uk , Dojo or catching us at drop off/pick up.

Many thanks

Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Bennison 😊