



Byland Class Newsletter

Autumn 2 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school. We hope you have had a lovely half term holiday.

Our **Topics** this term are **Land and Sea** followed by **Christmas!** We will be looking at world maps and locating and naming the oceans and continents. We will be learning about which animals can be found on the different continents to link in with our science work. We will incorporate some work on compass directions and learn about the famous local explorer Captain Cook.

Towards the end of the term, we will be looking at The Christmas Story and writing letters to Santa!

We will be studying the different **animal** categories in **Science** and we will be learning about which animals are herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. We will learn about different habitats to link in with our topic work.

In **English and Phonics** we will initially be focusing on Bonfire Night poetry. The Year 1 children will be applying their phonic knowledge and understanding of exclamation marks to write their own poems. Reception children will continue with their phonics work, learning lots of new single sounds then moving onto sounds which are made up of two letters (digraphs) such as 'ai', 'ee' and 'oi'. These will be added to the children's sound books for practise at home. Please ensure you read/practise sounds with your child as much as possible at home. Every little helps!

In **Maths** we will be working on addition and subtraction to start with using a variety of resources to support us before moving on to shape. Please keep practising maths at home using Mathletics. This is an excellent tool to support your child's mathematical understanding and mental recall; please let us know if you have any trouble logging on and do print certificates to share on a Friday in our celebration assembly.

PE will continue to be on a Thursday with Mr Shimwell our PE coach. We will be both indoors and outside for PE so please ensure that your child has both an indoor and warm outdoor PE kit in school at all times.

In **RE** we will be learning about the story of Jesus' birth and why Jesus is important to Christians.

Forest School sessions will continue to 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 continue to come home on a weekend and we will be sending you observations via '**Evidence Me**' which is an online assessment tool (some parents still haven't registered yet and you are missing out on seeing your child's activities- we no longer print these observations out and stick into the learning journeys). 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 enjoy sharing these experiences with the rest of the class on a Monday morning! All parents have been sent a log in request- if you are not seeing your child's observations coming through please let us know.

We will continue to add new sounds and tricky words to your child's sound book, and as the children learn to blend sounds to read words, we will send word cards and other activities for practise at home. Please continue to support your child with these activities and learning new sounds and tricky words. Please write a comment in your child's reading record to let us know how they have got on.

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.

Reading

The children will be read with 1 to 1 twice each week. The Reception children will practise their sounds and blending in this time. Their books will be 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.

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 Bennison and Mrs Tyrka 😊