



## Byland Class Newsletter - Autumn Term 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! We hope you and your families are all well and have had a lovely Summer break.

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 looking at '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 and doing some map work.

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.

### **Phonics / Reading**

Our school has chosen 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised' as our systematic, synthetic phonics (SSP) programme to teach early reading and spelling.

Each Friday your child will bring home a new Little Wandle book which they will have previously read at school and will therefore be familiar with the text. Your child should be able to read their book without any help, but if they cannot read a word please do support them. The books will be collected in on a Monday ready to start a new Little Wandle book on Tuesday. Please can you record in your child's reading record when they have read at home to let us know how they have done. In addition, your child will bring home another reading book for pleasure to share with you. Please see the attached sheet for further information and guidance on how to support your child as it is a very different and new way of working for us all.

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 Monday. 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, school hoodie and trainers.

In **RE** we will be thinking about 'Which times are special and why?' We will be learning about celebrations in our own lives and different religious festivals. Our Collective Worship theme this half term is 'Courage'.

**Forest School** sessions will take place on Tuesday mornings 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. For the first two weeks, the spellings will be posted on Class Dojo whilst Google Classroom is set up for our Year 1s. They will then be posted onto Google Classroom each Friday.

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 3x per week in a group. We have an Early Literacy Evening planned for later this half term to explain further how our phonics and reading scheme works.

Y1 children will also be read with 3x per week as a group and the Little Wandle book will come home on a Friday for you to share, please make sure all books are returned on a Monday. They will also bring home another book for them to read at home (at their phonics level) this can be changed independently as and when they want to during the week.

**Class Dojo** is now set up and most parents are connected (Receptions have all been sent a link) 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 Dojo or catching us at drop off/pick up.

Many thanks

Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Bennison 😊