

BOLTONS

Church of England Primary School



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Dear Parents,

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter as your child's new class teacher. I am very much looking forward to the year ahead, teaching and getting to know the children and being part of the school team.

This term we will be covering the following:

English

In the first half term, our writing will link to our topic of 'Castles' with story writing ideas coming from traditional fairy tales. We will then work on writing instructions and practising our writing and speaking skills through poetry. After half term, we will focus on writing stories with familiar settings; writing labels, captions and explanation texts and looking at sense poems. Grammar and punctuation objectives will link to our writing but at the start of the term, we will be focusing heavily on sentence structure to check that we are using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces before moving onto improving our sentences with conjunctions and noun phrases and understanding the different types of sentences we can write. Phonics will be taught by myself and Mrs Smith and spellings will be taught every day with an emphasis on applying what we have learned into our writing! The children will have a spelling test every Friday with new spellings to learn going home the same day. Reading comprehension and guided reading lessons will take place once a week and children will be heard to read by myself or another adult as often as possible throughout the week. Please hear your child read at home as often as you can, as this will help your child to progress at a faster pace but remember that it is not just about being able to read mechanically, it is also about understanding what they have read so asking them questions about the text is vital. When you hear your child read, please record it in their reading record book.

Maths

The first 3 weeks of the term will involve learning about place value. The children will be taught the necessary skills needed to understand number with many opportunities to gain a greater depth of understanding through applying the skills they have learned. The focus will be on counting forwards and backwards; reading and writing numbers; recognising the place value of digits; and comparing and ordering numbers. We will then move onto addition and subtraction which will include number bonds and facts; using mathematical signs; adding and subtracting 1 and 2-digit numbers; and solving problems. Year 2 will cover multiplication and division where they will use arrays, repeated addition, mental methods and number facts to solve problems. We will look at 2D and 3D shapes and describe position, direction and movement. Year 1 will learn to tell the time to the hour and half past the hour and use language relating to dates, while the year 2s will tell and write the time to the nearest 5 minutes, including quarter past/to the hour and comparing and sequencing intervals of time. Learning will take place through practical activities with a variety of resources on hand to help the children to gain a greater understanding of concepts taught.



Homework will be set on a Thursday and will be expected to be handed in the following Wednesday and will usually be linked to English and Maths.

Science

This term we will be learning about 'Animals, Including Humans'. We will identify and name a variety of common animals and describe and compare their structure. Learning will also focus on the names of parts of the human body and recognising and naming the 5 senses.

Computing

Our first lesson will look at Internet Safety and understanding how we can be safe when online. We will then concentrate on logging on and off the computer correctly before exploring 'Purple Mash', which will involve understanding the tools and functions of icons; creating and saving work and beginning to develop an understanding of ownership of work created. We will then look at effective searching; following and creating simple instructions; technology outside school and grouping and sorting.

PE

The children will do PE with me on a Monday when we will focus on multi-skills and athletics followed by gymnastics after half term. In addition they will have lessons from a tennis coach every Thursday for 5 weeks starting week commencing 18th September. May I remind you to send your child with a full PE kit which needs to include a pair of trainers as we go outside as often as we can. They will also need a sweatshirt or hooded top as the weather can get cold quite quickly.

RE

Our themes this term will be 'Special Places – Our Church, Our School' and 'Christmas Journeys'. The work will include a mixture of art work, written work and whole class shared pieces.

History and Geography

In history this term we will be learning about 'Kings and Queens'. We will learn about the Royal family and what role it played in the past, which monarchs are remembered the most and why and what they achieved.

Our topic in geography will be 'Near and Far (Africa)'. We will understand geographical similarities and differences of a small area in the United Kingdom and a small area in Africa. We will use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the United Kingdom and its countries as well as other countries and continents and oceans.

Art, Design and Technology

Mrs Garner will teach these subjects. In art this half term, the children will represent leaves, trees, pumpkins and fireworks in a variety of ways. Design and technology will be taught after half term and will focus on designing an effective, attractive egg carrier.

Music

Mr Clark, our music specialist, will be teaching music throughout the term.

My teaching philosophy centres around the 'whole child' and providing a variety of opportunities and experiences for all children to reach their full potential. I feel that communication is key to success and that positive relationships are crucial so I hope that we can work together to provide the very best care and support for your child.

Finally, Mrs Smith has asked me to say thank you for all the lovely presents she received and the voucher from the present year 2 children.

Please do not hesitate to come to see me if you have any concerns or queries.

Yours sincerely,

Louise Dickson

