

# BOLTONS

## *Church of England Primary School*



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Dear Parents,

The children's first term at school is such a special and exciting one. To complement this new chapter in their lives and to promote their personal, social and emotional development, we will be reading lots of stories about starting school, new experiences, family and friends, learning class rules and routines, sharing stories about ourselves, learning about our feelings and learning how to keep ourselves safe and healthy. We will also focus on listening to and following instructions. We aim for children's listening skills, length that they can concentrate for and the ability to recall events or stories to improve over this term through these activities. We will support and model at every opportunity. We will also follow children's interest at every possible moment. We understand that all children start school at different starting points and we will ensure that we build on these foundations.

Please take a moment to have a look at our class page on the school website as you will find lots of useful information there, including information about Twinkl Phonics, which is the phonics scheme we use, as well as our yearly long-term plan and the relevant terms overview. <https://boltons.cumbria.sch.uk/classes/reception-year-one/>.

During the first few weeks the children will take part in a statutory baseline assessment. This is done on a one-to-one basis in a fun and exciting way and it enables me to get to know the children and find out more about their individual interests and starting points. Click on the following link to find out more information about the baseline. [Information for parents: reception baseline assessment](#)

### **Tapestry**

Over the next couple of weeks I will be sending out links to enable you to log onto your child's Tapestry account. Please feel free to upload any learning or progress that your child makes at home. Tapestry is also a way to communicate with myself and send any personal memos regarding your child, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to pop a message on Tapestry.

### **Reading**

Reading books will be sent home within the first half term. Initially the books will have no words as the children start to develop their phonic knowledge. It will be a huge benefit to your child if you can try and listen to them read at least four times a week. I will send more information about the reading books nearer the time.

### **Online Safety**

The internet is a tremendous resource for learning, leisure and interacting with other people, but there are potential risks that we all need to be aware of, to ensure we can help children and young people stay safe online. Therefore, we have regular online safety sessions to help equip them with the tools and skills they need to stay safe as they become more active online. Within school, we have strong firewalls to ensure children only have access to sites and programs that are age appropriate, and we all follow National online safety guidelines. Through conversations at school, we know many children already have parental controls on devices they use at home, but we encourage you to continue conversations about online safety at home too, so they know who to speak to if they come across something that worries them or makes them feel uncomfortable online. If you would like support adding parental locks please ask or use the following website for further support and advice.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Parental-controls/>

If you have any questions about the curriculum or any general queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,  
Tracy Smith