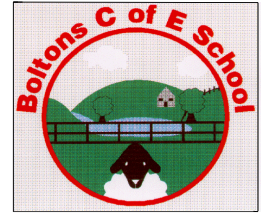


BOLTONS

Church of England Primary School



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Date: 7th January 2026

Bolton Low Houses

Wigton, Cumbria

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Dear Parents,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope you all had a magical Christmas making memories with your families. I want to start by saying a huge thank you for all of the lovely cards and gifts I received; it was incredibly thoughtful and very much appreciated. This year, Year 1 and 2 will continue to be supported by Mrs Gemmell. Here is a letter explaining general information about homework, spellings, reading and PE lessons. For the other subjects, I have emailed curriculum overviews for the next two half terms to inform you of the things I will be teaching in all subject areas.

Reading

Reading is vital to learning and we will be listening to the children read as often as we possibly can, so I would greatly appreciate for the children to bring their reading books and reading records into school every day. If they need to change their books, the children are encouraged to let the teacher know, so that this is done regularly. I listen to them read as much as possible, but I cannot listen to them all every day, so they need to let me know if they need to change their book. **The children should be doing about 15 minutes worth of reading every night and I would appreciate if you could record this in their reading records.**

Homework and Spellings

Homework and spellings will be sent home every Friday in their homework books. I would like the children's homework to be handed back in every Wednesday to allow time for it to be marked and set again. The children are encouraged to keep a copy of their spellings when they get home, so they can continue to practise, and they will be tested on these spellings every Friday. I expect to see written evidence of the children's spellings, whether this be using the Look, cover, say, write check method already stuck in their books, or a method of their choice. It is really important that the children practise their spellings regularly throughout the week to ensure they are fully embedded, so that they will apply them to their writing.

PE

This half term, the children will need their PE kits every Thursday and Friday. However, we are very fortunate to have many coaches come in to teach PE, so this can change regularly. Therefore, if possible, we would recommend that the children bring their PE kits in on Monday and take them home with them on Friday. This allows us to be flexible with PE lessons.

The children will be taught PE by Carlisle United each Thursday and Mrs Grierson every Friday.

May I remind you to send your child with full PE kit in school for these days. Please make sure they have a pair of trainers, as well as pumps, a white t-shirt, black shorts and a pair or tracksuit bottoms and a spare jumper or tracksuit top.

It is the responsibility of the child to remove any earrings, therefore I advise that earrings are either removed before attending school in the morning or your child has a container to keep them safe.

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 any areas of the curriculum or general enquiries, please don't hesitate to phone school to talk to me.

Yours sincerely,
Kirsty Bell