



BISHOPSWOOD INFANT SCHOOL

Bishopswood Infant & Junior Schools
Barlows Road
Tadley
Hampshire
RG26 3NA

Infant 0118 9812836

Executive Headteacher: Mr G Golding
Head of School: Mrs J Armes

Friday 27th February 2026

Year 1 Newsletter – Spring 2

Dear Parents/Carers,

Learning Challenge

This term our Learning Challenges are based on studies of the local area in ‘**Terrific Tadley and Brilliant Basingstoke**’ and our Science, which is all about growing and plants. You will be able to see the range of work we are covering on our attached curriculum letter. If you have any questions about the topic please see one of us at the door.

Homework Grid

Please find attached the homework grid for this half term. Any homework the children complete this term is optional and the children will be given an opportunity to share it with the class during that week. Homework will be displayed on our ‘Home Learning’ board and children will be given a sticker to celebrate their work.

Offsite Visits

As part of our learning this half term, we have planned a few off-site visits. We will be taking a trip around Tadley in the minibus to explore our local area in more detail. A date for this visit has not yet been confirmed, but we will inform you as soon as it has been arranged.

We will also be taking a walk to the post box to post letters the children have written. This visit will take place on **Friday 13th March**.

If you have any questions about these events, please speak to Mrs Boyce or Miss Daly.

Reading and Spelling

Children who read frequently at home often make much better progress than those who are not heard as often, so if you do get the opportunity to hear your child read then it can make all the difference to both their confidence and ability. We would encourage you to try and hear them at least 3 times a week if possible and **please record this in their reading record**. Children’s books will only be changed each week if they have read the book 3 times or more.

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Spellings will continue to be taught and tested fortnightly in our phonics sessions. Any additional revision of these you can do at home will greatly improve your child's chances of spelling them correctly in the test and in future written work.

Year 1 Phonics Screening Test

The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check is a short assessment taken by children in England at the end of Year 1. It is designed to measure how well pupils can use phonics skills to read words by sounding them out and blending sounds together. During the test, children read 40 words aloud to their teacher, including both real words and made-up "nonsense" words that check decoding ability. We will be scheduling a meeting for parents to attend this half term to share more information about the test itself, how we will be supporting the children in school and ways you can support at home.

Reading

We're excited to celebrate the **National Year of Reading**, a fantastic opportunity to inspire a love of books and stories in our children. Throughout the year, we'll be taking part in a wide range of fun and engaging reading activities designed to build confidence, spark imagination, and celebrate reading for pleasure across our school community. We'd also like to remind families about **Ready Steady Books**, where parents and carers are warmly invited to come into school every Friday between 8.45-9am to read with their children and share special reading time together. To further support reading at home, we've attached a list of **recommended reads** for Year 1, offering a variety of books to enjoy and explore together. We're really looking forward to a year filled with stories, creativity, and a shared love of reading.

Reminders

- **PE will continue to be on a Tuesday.** Please make sure that children are wearing appropriate clothing for both indoor and outdoor PE.
- For PE **long hair must be tied back** and any **earrings removed or taped over**.
- This term we be trying to include as much learning outside as possible. Each child will need a **pair of wellies** in school for them to be fully involved.
- Please ensure your children's **jumpers and cardigans** are clearly named so they do not get lost.
- **Water bottles** need to be in school and taken home each day to be cleaned and re-filled with water only please.
- **Library** day will be on a **Thursday**, so please ensure borrowed books are in children's bags. This is a lovely opportunity to try lots of different books and select books with their peers.

We hope that you and your children enjoy the term ahead of us. If you have any questions please come and speak to your class teacher.

Many thanks,

Year 1 Team

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