



BISHOPSWOOD INFANT SCHOOL

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

Infant 0118 9812836

Executive Headteacher: Mr G Golding

Friday 8th September 2023

Year 1 Newsletter – Autumn 1

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 1! We hope you and your families have had a lovely summer, despite the weather! The children have only been with us for a little while and already they are impressing us with their enthusiasm and hard work. A great start to the year!

Learning Challenge

This term our Learning Challenge is ‘Terrific Toys’ which is a history based topic. You will be able to see the range of work we are covering on our attached topic plan. Our ‘WOW’ event this term will be our “**Terrific Toys**” day, where children can bring in a wheeled toy (bike, scooter, trikes etc) to play with in the playground. We will also be looking at different types of toys on this day, and our teacher’s toys too! This will be on **Thursday 5th October**. We will send a ParentMail out to remind you nearer the time, and we will ensure all bikes/scooters will only be used by your child and kept outside.

Book Bags

Please could we ask that children’s book bags are limited to one small keyring. We are finding that larger keyrings are not allowing children to put their book bags in their trays. We also ask that book bags are brought into school each day with relevant books needed for Year 1 (monkey books and reading books). Children will often bring home a variety of self-initiated work through the week. Please can you empty their book bags on a regular basis to prevent them becoming too full.

Spellings

Spellings will start after half term, and we will send a letter to explain how the process works with the first set of spellings.

PE

PE will take place weekly on a **Tuesday** afternoon this term. **Children will need to come to school in their PE kit and will stay in them all day**. Please make sure their footwear is appropriate for indoor and outdoor PE, and if it is a chilly day they will need a school jumper to wear as well. As always, we ask that long hair is tied back on these days and any earrings are

either taken out or covered over with medical tape. Please be mindful of sending in children with laced shoes.

Reading

It is **so** important to hear your child read as much as possible, and the children really do reap the rewards of regular reading. . Your child will be taking home a reading book matching their Monster Phonics stage. Please read these books as many times as possible with your child over the week in order to help their decoding skills and to build their fluency in reading. In addition, your child can choose a book from the book corner as a 'reading for pleasure' book. This can be read with adults at home and enjoyed together.

It is our expectation that you hear your child read **at least 3 times a week**, and this can be your child's book from school or other books you may have at home. **Please record this in your child's reading record (the 'monkey' books)**. We will not change the book until it has been read three times. Books will be changed on a Monday.

Don't forget, if your child reads more than 3 times a week they will be entered into the raffle to win a book to take home to keep! One child from each class is chosen every week to win a book.

Homework Grid

Please find attached the homework grid for this half term. Any homework the children complete this term is optional and can be brought in on **Mondays** and they 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 given a sticker to celebrate their work.

Reminders

- This year we will be having one session of outdoor learning a week. Each child will need a pair of wellies in school in order 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.

We hope that you and your children enjoy the term ahead of us. If you have any questions or concerns please come and speak to your class teacher at the beginning of the school day. If you wish to have a longer chat with us we can arrange a convenient time to talk in more detail.

Many thanks,

Year 1 Team