

Bawdsey CEVC Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you are settling in well to the Spring Term. Please do remember to come and see us with any concerns, issues, or exciting milestone news from home. Reception and Year 1 parents can use the reading record for this, if we are unavailable at the beginning or end of the day. Nursery parents have a To and Fro book (red book) which can be used for these messages. As the New Year begins, we are enjoying lots of exciting projects with our new permanent Starfish Class Staff Team; in Nursery, Mrs Larcombe remains Full Time, Mrs Backhouse remains on Mornings daily and two afternoons midweek, and Mrs Reilly remains on two full days. Mrs Simoes remains overall unit teacher for Tuesdays through until Fridays, and Miss. Simpson is covering Mondays, as well as assisting learning for specific students for the remainder of the week. We are a thriving and ever-growing unit!!!!

Gentle Reminders

We are confident that our Reception children are adjusting well to the morning routine lining up with Year 1's in the playground to integrate more into whole school life as they prepare next term to embark on Year 1.

On entry to the classroom in the morning, we would like children to hang their coats up, put their reading record in the teacher tray, and put book bags in trays. Nursery children are encouraged to find their own name and move it onto the Nursery board to show they are in. This is an important skill in itself for name identification and independence.

Children may bring in toys/objects from home on Tuesdays, but we encourage these to remain in their trays until we can 'show and tell' as we do not want them to get lost. Toys/objects are brought in at your own risk.

We would welcome any materials or empty packaging in class for junk modelling, including kitchen roll holders and boxes. No toilet roll cardboard tubes please. We are also in the process of assembling our very own 'Bug Hotel' so we would appreciate any old logs, bricks, tyres or crates please. Any old logs trimmed up would be so useful for our 'forest School' or Phonics area in the willow structure on the field. Many thanks in advance for the helpful things already sent in by some parents/carers. Any linked resources to our themes are also very welcome.



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Can we remind parents that it is a necessity to have spare clothes and wellington boots in school for play in our Nursery Garden outside. Also, as children are entitled to free milk and fruit/vegetables for snack, we discourage sending in lunch boxes unless they are for packed lunch only please.

Water bottles or items for dietary requirements are of course essential. Can all items sent into school, including water bottles, be named please. Also can all children come into school appropriate for the weather conditions with WARM coats, hats and gloves, all named. A spare pair of old shoes for break and/or wellington boots maybe brought in to use the outside field as weather permits.

A gentle homework reminder that Year 1 children receive spellings on Mondays, retested the following Monday. They also receive a piece of connected homework to aid with spellings, which may sometimes also involve reading to spot the phonemes/graphemes we have been learning. Reception will also be receiving some handwriting homework connected to the phonemes/graphemes we are learning for the week. All Reception and Year 1 children will be receiving a maths or themed piece of homework. Nursery children have the opportunity to choose a book to share from our classroom library, and record a picture about the story/text. These will be changed weekly on Mondays.

All Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children will be regularly visiting the large playground each afternoon for 'Wheelie Time' and skipping/PE games. We have a very limited number of school ride-ons for this purpose, and so we would encourage you to bring your child's scooter/ride-on to school for our special 'Wheelie Time'. Please can children bring in helmets to wear whilst playing on the scooters. Although our school grounds are locked and secure, we must advise that these will need to be taken off site each day please.

We would encourage all parents/carers in Starfish class to read daily with their children. Progress at this age is exciting and rapid, and practice makes perfect! We cannot stress enough how important your support is at home with their learning journey!

This term, we will be focusing on Materials and their properties, building and construction. We will also be undertaking a virtual tour of The British Isles, learning about countries, physical features, language and British Values. Any postcards from your travels around the British Isles would be warmly welcomed for our topic. We also hope to be cooking and baking this term in the Jubilee Room, and making animal homes of different kinds including the Bug Hotel.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Simoes, Mrs Larcombe, Miss. Simpson, Mrs Backhouse, Mrs Reilly.



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