



THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

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

Infant 0118 9812836
Junior 0118 9812738

Executive Headteacher: Mr G Golding

Friday 5th January 2024

Year 1 Newsletter – Spring 1

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas holiday and we would like to wish you all a very happy and healthy new year!

Learning Challenge

This term our Learning Challenge is based around past and current Monarchs and the question **“What does a Monarch do?”** You will be able to see the range of work we are covering on our attached topic plan. If you have any questions about the topic please see one of us at the door.

“Kings and Queens Day”

We are excited to be including this half term a **‘Kings and Queens Day’** on **Thursday 8th February** where the children can experience a range of royal activities including all the fun of a castle banquet! Children can come dressed up as Kings, Queens, Princes, Princesses or even a knight! We will also have our own special castle to play on that day too. A reminder will be going out nearer the time.

Phonics Meeting – Date for your Diary

In June, all Year 1 children will be taking the Phonics Screening Test. The test is made up of 40 words; 20 real and 20 ‘pseudo’ words (made-up words) and your child is required to read as many of them as they can using their phonic knowledge and skills. In order to help your child with their phonics we are holding a parents meeting on **Tuesday 6th February 9.00am-9.30am** so you can learn a little more about the test and get some ideas to use at home.

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Bishopswood Federation work together to develop kind and considerate children who are resilient, reflective and motivated learners, ready for the challenges that the future holds.

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.

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.

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.

PE

For this term PE will take place weekly on a **Wednesday**. 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.

Reminders

- This year we be trying to include as much learning outside as possible. 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.
- This half term we will start visiting the school library every week. Library day will be on a **Tuesday**, so please ensure their borrowed books are in their bag. 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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