



Bratton Primary School

Engagement - Resilience - Integrity
Headteacher: Mr Ian Bolton

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Dear parents and carers,

Firstly let me start by wishing you a Happy New Year and I hope that you all had a wonderful and restful Christmas.

As a school this term we will be revisiting our school vision and ethos with a particular focus on integrity and evaluative feedback.

Our class topic this term will be Narnia. In English we will be using *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* as our text and the children will work on a number of skills with this text as a focus. They will be writing character and setting descriptions, a letter to one of the characters offering him advice and a play script based on a section of the book. We will also be looking at poetry and the children will learn all about haikus and cinquains. 'Big Write' sessions will take place on alternate Fridays, with Talk Homework sent home on a Thursday.

As always, children will read regularly to a member of the Antelopes Team. Thank you for your support so far and it is extremely important that you continue to be actively involved in promoting a love of reading through regularly hearing your child read and reading to them. Your child will hand in his or her Reading Record each morning so that we can see what they have read and your comments. We expect the children to choose from a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books and make full use of our fantastic scheme books and library facility. We would appreciate it if you could continue to make regular time to question your child about the book they are reading, discussing their views, reactions and predictions and help them with any vocabulary they are not familiar with.

We will continue to devote time daily to 'GHASP' skills (Grammar, Handwriting, Spelling and Punctuation). Once again, spelling learning and development will take place in school. The children will learn to choose nouns appropriately, looking at noun phrases and abstract nouns, use more ambitious conjunctions to extend sentences, as well as looking at subordinating conjunctions and clauses. We will look at adverbs and adverbial phrases, including re-ordering sentences so that the adverb is at the start of the sentence. We will be looking at a range of punctuation from getting the basics right like capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks moving onto commas to separate clauses. This will link to our whole class focus of re-reading and editing writing as we go.

In Maths this term, the children will be looking at angles and coordinates. They will continue to practise their addition and subtraction through word problems and enhance their times tables recall (any additional practice at home would really help). We will also look in greater detail at fractions and decimals and what happens when you divide decimals as well as fractions and their decimal equivalents. Finally, we will be looking at telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes.

In Science we will be learning all about sound; how they are made, about vibrations, pitch and volume. There will also be an investigation into how we can reduce sound and about which material would be best if we were making ear defenders!

In Computing (ICT), the children will be thinking about programming and simple animation. They will use a program which will allow the children to make up short animation stories using their small world settings (see paragraph below about D&T.)

In Music, we will be following the Charanga syllabus and the children will be learning a rap all about anti-bullying. This links directly with our PSHE work, which is about being kind to one another and thinking before you speak.

In D&T, the children will be making a small world based on Narnia, in a shoebox. **Please can you send your child into school with any empty shoe boxes you may have lying around at home!**

Subjects taught by specialist teachers will be as follows: P.E every Wednesday by Miss Wozniak. Please ensure that your child has a full, correct and named P.E kit in school every day. We understand that many children take part in sports outside school and how expensive it can be to buy more than one pair of trainers, so we are happy for your child to take his or her trainers home overnight but they must be returned the next day. Your child will also be taught French every Wednesday by Mrs Lambrets. Our theme in the P.E sessions taught by Mr Browne will be Dance linked to a water theme.

Your child will receive Maths or English homework and occasionally Science or topic homework each week. **This will be set on Thursday, to be handed in on the following Tuesday.** There will also be a short talking homework every other Thursday, relating to the Big Write, which will take place the next day; it is vital that this is completed as it will link directly to the planning or writing on Friday.

Can we please ensure that your child has the correct school uniform, including the correct footwear specified in our uniform list: <http://www.bratton.wilts.sch.uk/uniform/>

Finally, if you have not yet done so, I urge you to get your first payment in for the residential and to explore the website yourself and with your child. We will be holding a meeting regarding the trip after half term, but in the meantime if there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and see me.

<https://www.hoocourt.co.uk/residential/programmes/outdoor-adventure-and-team-building/>

If you have any questions or concerns, I am always available for a chat after school in person or by phone and I am happy to make an appointment in this case.

Thank you in advance for your support this term.
Kind regards,

Mr Scott Browne, Mrs Lesly Whitefield, Mrs Kim Harvey and Miss Nicola Shaw
Antelope Class Team

