



# Bratton Primary School

**Engagement - Resilience - Integrity**

Headteacher: Mr Ian Bolton

T: 01380 830511

E: [admin@bratton.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bratton.wilts.sch.uk)

W: [www.bratton.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.bratton.wilts.sch.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first term in Year 1! We are very much looking forward to teaching your children and getting to know their interests and personalities. This term our topic will be "Into the Woods". We will be carrying out investigations and problem solving in maths, exploring the environment and the structure of plants in science and discovering the art of Van Gogh and Andy Goldsworthy.

We will be reading the familiar fairy tales of Goldilocks and Little Red Riding Hood and also 'adventure' books.

We will role play and describe the story characters and learn to use time connectives in our writing in order to sequence the events.

In Phonics, we will be consolidating our knowledge and understanding of graphemes (letter combinations that represent a sound) which will help us as we become independent readers and writers.

<b>qu</b> as in quick	<b>ch</b> as in chip	<b>sh</b> as in shop
<b>th</b> as in thin/then	<b>ng</b> as in ring	<b>ai</b> as in rain
<b>ee</b> as in feet	<b>igh</b> as in night	<b>oa</b> as in boat
<b>oo</b> as in boot/look	<b>ar</b> as in farm	<b>or</b> as in for
<b>er</b> as in corner	<b>ur</b> as in fur	<b>ow</b> as in cow
<b>oi</b> as in coin	<b>ear</b> as in dear	
<b>air</b> as in fair	<b>ure</b> as in sure	

We will be using our segmenting to spell skills when we write decodable words, as well as building up our knowledge of tricky words to spell, including:

you	all	are	was
they	said	have	like
some	come	little	were
there	out	what	one

In English, we continue to emphasise the importance of talking through our ideas, and saying a sentence, before we write. We will be developing our understanding of story: to recount and predict a new ending, to label a map and to write a letter. These will be the focuses for the Big Write sessions, as well as being developed in our daily extended writing. The teaching and learning of grammar, handwriting, spelling and punctuation (GHaSP) will run alongside our ongoing genre focus, linking to our phonics knowledge. In our writing, we will demonstrate our understanding of capital letters and full stops to help a sentence make sense. We will use poetry and song to encourage an understanding and enjoyment of rhyme.

We value the support that you give your children with their learning at home, and please continue to practise spellings as well as regular reading, to support their fluency and understanding of new vocabulary. The children will bring home a book pitched at their level from the reading scheme, as well as book which they choose from the school library as we aim to consolidate and challenge their skills as well as foster a love of reading. Please continue to read to, and with, your child, as reading a range of genres positively impacts upon the way in which children view reading. We value the comments that you write in the reading record booklets, which note your child's progress, as this also supports our ongoing assessment. We thank you in advance for the support you give your child, and please continue to work with your child to fill in a section of this reading record at least five times per week, regularly discussing their reading progress and understanding with them.

In Mathematics this term, we will build upon the learning from Reception class, applying addition and subtraction skills in practical contexts (in order to gain an increasingly automatic recall of number bonds +/- within 10). We will also develop our mental maths skills for number work, in the context of measurement, money and problem solving. We will also learn to explain number patterns that we notice during our investigations.

In Geography, we will be finding out about the physical features of our local environment, and explore simple map making, using the language of position (above, below, beside, between). In RE, we will develop the theme of caring for others and the world and why it matters. This links with our focus in Personal, Social, Healthy and Emotional Development (PSHE): creating a community and focusing on feelings and 'new beginnings'. On Wednesdays the children will be developing Tag Rugby with Miss Wozniak, our sports coach. Class PE will be on a Tuesday, and the focus this term is ball skills: bouncing and catching, exploring different ways of using a ball and the accuracy of throwing. Please, therefore, remember to bring in your child's named PE kit on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

In Year 1 we will continue to develop the 'Growth Mindset' culture established in Bratton Primary School. We want them to love challenges, learning from their mistakes rather than fearing failure, putting lots of effort into everything they do and valuing feedback from adults and friends. This approach will be modelled, celebrated and displayed on our challenge 'we show good effort' board. In Lemur class this term, we are spotlighting the aspect of reflection and resilience: in order to think about our learning and how we can improve, individually and as a class.

Home learning will be sent out on a Thursday afternoon and please bring it back for the next Monday. The focus will include phonics, spelling or maths, which consolidate the skills that we are learning in class. The Big Write talk homework, on alternate Thursdays ready for the day after, provides the opportunity for the children to chat through their ideas for the next days writing and share their knowledge and understanding with you in different contexts. We would like to emphasise that we expect these tasks to be a focused and shared learning experience, which will take approximately 15 minutes.

Our class mascot, Luna the Lemur, will come to stay with each of the children in turn. Luna will be brought home on a Friday to be returned to school, after the weekend, the next Monday. It would be great if you could encourage your child to draw and write about their adventures in the journal provided.

We are looking forward to an exciting term, supporting the children with their learning, as well as continuing to work in partnership with you. We are planning an exciting class visit to Westonbirt Arboretum later in the term and details will be sent home in another letter.

As always, we thank you in advance for your support this term. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns. We are also glad to hear about individual successes, or areas of development, that you share at home together.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Olivia Thomas, Mrs Hilary Gray and Mrs Alex Wild (The Year 1 Team)

