



Bratton Primary School

Engagement - Resilience - Integrity

Headteacher: Mr Ian Bolton

T: 01380 830511

E: admin@bratton.wilts.sch.uk

W: www.bratton.wilts.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! This term our topic will be "In My Toy Box". We will be exploring the history of toys and books, learning more about the toys our parents and grand-parents enjoyed playing with. In Science the children will investigate materials and, in particular, the materials used to make toys. We will be focusing on creating our own toys in D&T and thinking about the different styles of illustrations in story books for Art lessons.

Alongside our topic work the children will continue to participate in Phonics, English and Mathematics lessons. Phonics sessions will continue to be based upon the Letters and Sounds teaching programme. The class will be continuing Phase 5 this term. In Phase 5, new graphemes are introduced as well as alternative spellings for those sounds we have already learnt. Please remember to look at the list of the sounds and high frequency words we will be covering, which will be found in your child's red phonics folder, as well as in their homework book, and we ask that you continue to practise these in order to support their learning in class. We will also continue to write the specific letter sounds and tricky words your child needs to practise in their reading record.

The focus for English this term is on writing for a purpose and the children will be completing a range of fiction and non-fiction writing, including: a story with a familiar setting, an information page and a rhyming poem. In guided reading sessions, the children will read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts and we will be continuing to use our carousel of activities to develop a range of reading skills. In Big Write sessions this term the class will be focusing on an imaginative story with a familiar setting, an information page about toys in the past and instruction writing. In all these areas we will be focusing on a more accurate use of punctuation and saying our sentences out loud before writing, to ensure they are fully developed and to check that they make sense. We will also continue formal GHaSP (Grammar Handwriting and Spelling Punctuation) sessions within daily teaching. During these sessions, the children will build upon skills already learnt and begin to learn some new rules for language use and language structure. The children will also take part in daily handwriting sessions. Well formed cursive handwriting is a key part of the Year 1 English curriculum and therefore will continue to be a focus moving forward.

In Mathematics, we will focus on shapes, place value, addition and subtraction and time. We will also further the children's understanding of how to partition numbers into tens and ones. The children will continue to develop their use of a number line to answer more challenging calculations, as well as extending their knowledge of how to use their knowledge of number bonds to help them with mental addition and subtraction.

On Wednesdays, the children will be having PE with our sports coach. This term they will be focusing on football and on a Tuesday, in class PE lessons, the children will develop their basic movement and co-ordination skills through dance with me.

Address: Carpenter's Lane, Bratton, Westbury, Wiltshire, BA13 4RL



As it is the second term in Key Stage 1, the class will continue to transition from Early Years Foundation Stage. With this in mind the children will now have a more structured morning and afternoon timetable. They will therefore now have child initiated time on three afternoons a week and this will reduce as the term progresses, this free-flow learning is an extremely important part of education. It is a wonderful opportunity for the teachers to observe and support children in their development of crucial skills across the curriculum. We are particularly focused on the children's speaking this term. Lemur class have reflected and chosen to focus on speaking in full sentences as their whole class OKR (objective and key results) target.

Over the term the children will receive home learning. This will be sent out on a Thursday afternoon and collected back in on a Monday. In addition to this, a short Big Write talk homework will be given out every other Thursday and be due in on the Friday (the day after). Home learning may include an activity such as a Maths puzzle, phonics game or language work. Home learning will focus on consolidating the skills that are taught at school, providing the children with another opportunity to practice and discuss these. It also provides another assessment opportunity for us, as we are able to see how embedded their skills are when used in a different context. Each task will be clearly explained to the children in class, as well as there being instructions given on the task itself. We are keen to emphasise that these tasks should be short, focused, shared learning and envisage them taking no longer than 15 minutes.

Lemur Class have been working really hard to develop their decoding and comprehension skills through 1:1 and guided reading sessions in class. Alongside this, children will continue to be sent home with a book pitched at their level, as well as one chosen from the school Library aimed at extending and challenging them. Please read this Library book to and with your child, as reading a range of genres and higher level books positively impacts the way in which children view reading. The reading records sent home are an opportunity for you to record the books the children have read, as well as being a place to write any comments about your child's reading skills. These comments support us in our assessment of the children and aid us in selecting new and exciting books for them. **We ask that you please continue to work with your child and aim to fill in a section of this record at least five times per week, discussing their reading progress and understanding with them.**

As a school we continue to develop a 'Growth Mindset' within all our children at Bratton Primary. 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. As such, Lemur class will continue to develop 4 key aspects and these are: reflectiveness, reciprocity, resourcefulness and resilience. Last term we focused on showing our resourcefulness by being more independent and using "3 before me". This term we have already begun our work on being reflective and we will be developing our use of thinking journals to support the children with this.

We are looking forward to continuing supporting the children with their learning, as well as working closely with yourselves. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are available for meetings before or after school by appointment.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Sarah Janman and Mrs Hilary Gray

Year 1 Team