



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 to the second term in Year 1! This term our topic will be "Light and Dark". We will be reading the story of 'The Owl who was afraid of the dark' by Jill Tomlinson, using role play and developing empathy for the characters to heighten our understanding of the story.

In Phonics, we will be learning new graphemes (letters which make one sound) which will help us as we become independent readers and writers.

ay as in day	ou as in out	ie as in pie
ea as in eat	oy as in boy	ir as in bird
ue as in blue	aw as in saw	wh as in what

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:

Mr	Mrs	looked	asked
called	people	where	there

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 different types of writing, learning how to give and follow instructions based on direct experience, which will also be a focus of one our Big Write session. 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 and we will write poems using our senses to describe fireworks.

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 be building upon our learning from last term. We will develop our mental maths skills in addition and subtraction, (in order to gain an increasingly automatic recall of number bonds +/- within 10). We will

learn to explain number patterns that we notice during our investigations. We will also be learning to tell the time to the hour and ½ hour, and using the vocabulary of position to give instructions, and finally we will develop our knowledge and understanding of 3D shape.

In History, we will be finding out about houses long ago, exploring the changes within living memory, and we will learn about the lives of significant individuals in the past, including Louis Braille. In RE, we will develop the theme of festivals around the world including Diwali. This links with our focus in Personal, Social, Health and Emotional Development (PSHE): to create a community, with a focus 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 all children 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 consolidates 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 day's 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 with Luna in the journal provided.

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)