

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 6, I hope that you had an enjoyable half term with your family. We have lots of learning planned again for this term as well as transition arrangements for children going into their next year group. Outlined below are the learning themes for this term.

English	Children in Early Years will be working on phonics and early writing skills carefully matched to their stage of development. Some will be writing labels whilst others will be writing a series of sentences. Every reading and writing opportunity will be based on quality texts picked for their rich vocabulary. Years 1 and 2 will complete some work on grammar to begin with followed by a unit on travel journals. Towards the end of the term we will look at humorous poetry. Children continue to be grouped for their phonics and spelling inputs with daily lessons led by experienced teachers. Handwriting is also practised daily with some children receiving interventions to support their progress as needed.
Maths EYFS	Some children will begin work on number and the representation of number using manipulatives while some will complete the EYFS year with a focus on doubling, sharing, odd and even numbers before finishing the year with problem solving, pattern recognition, position and directions and an introduction to Year 1 number work.
Maths Year 1	Children will complete the place value to 100 unit from last term before completing a short unit on money followed by a unit on time. Towards the end of this term they will complete a transition to year 2 unit using maths equipment to add and subtract 2 digit numbers.
Maths Year 2	Children will complete a unit on telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes (help at home to practise this skill is needed as this skill needs to be practised often in order to embed this complex skill). This unit is followed by a unit on statistics followed by a unit on position and direction which completes the year.
Science	Our unit this term is called Mini-Worlds. We will look at micro-habitats investigating what lives in a small area of grassland. We will also look at how we define if something is alive, dead or has never been alive. We will recap our work on classifying if an animal is a carnivore, herbivore or an omnivore. Before finishing the year, we will look at food chains as well as looking at how some animals change from offspring into adults.
Geography	Our topic is called Our Local Area and will develop the children's understanding of maps and how we can record what our local area is like. We will look at a variety of maps and develop the skills needed to make a map (this is harder than it appears as children have to visualise their world from above !). We will conduct some field work walking around the local area looking at the local land use, naming the river, looking at the pattern of houses and roads in Bibury. We will also spend some time comparing our village setting to other urban environments such as towns and cities.
RE (Friday morning)	Miss Bevans will teach a unit on How we can care for our world. The children will look at this using stories from the New Testament (The Good Samaritan) as well as teachings from the Jewish festival of Tu B'shevat to help children understand how faith can support people care for our world
Computing	Children in Year 1 and Year 2 will complete a further unit in coding using our software from Espresso Coding

Music (Friday morning)	Children will look at a range of British songs this term. The children will compose their own musical motif and combine these together to make a longer piece of music.
Art (Wednesday afternoon)	Mrs Russell will complete a unit on drawing this term called Make my Mark. The children will explore different shapes, techniques to add shade and they will explore different media with a drawing focus/
PE (Tuesday PM Friday AM)	We will have PE on Tuesday afternoons (1hr) and Friday mornings (1hr) this term. Mr Jayhew, our sports coach, will focus on Athletics and tennis this term. Please can children come to school in school uniform each day and bring their PE kit in a bag so that we can change in and out of PE clothes. PE kit can be kept in school from Tuesday to Friday if preferred.
Forest School	Will continue from Week 3 for EYFS and Year 1 on Friday afternoons with Miss Law.

Change to PE day (hopefully the last one !)

We are pleased that we will now have Mr Jayhew for both PE sessions this term. The first session will continue to be Tuesday afternoon. The second session will now revert to our old timings of Friday mornings. It is important that all children come to school wearing school uniform on both days. The children will change their clothes before and after each PE session.

Phonics Screening Check Year 1

This will be conducted in the week beginning 10th June by myself. We will work with each child individually using a relaxed approach. The children have already had a go at previous checks throughout the year and are very familiar with this check. We will inform you of the result in the final interim report of the year. Any children who do not 'pass' receive extra support for phonics in their Year 2 year.

Optional Year 2 SATS

For the first time this year, the government have abolished the Year 2 Statutory Assessments. Our Trust have decided to replace them with Optional SAT tests in order to aid teacher assessments as they transition into Year 3. They are low key and the children are already familiar with the format of these assessments. They will be used to help me provide extra information for their Year 3 teacher in addition to what I already know about their areas of strength and areas for development. They will be conducted in the middle of this term.

Transition arrangements

As usual at this time of year, we as a staff are making arrangements to help children transition into school and between key stages. We have organised settling in sessions for new EYFS children and we will organise a class swap day for Year 2. The benefits of being in a small school mean that transitions for exiting children into new year groups are generally seamless because they are familiar with staff and classrooms.

Summer Performance

Children in Acorns Class are taking a small part in the summer performance this year led by Key Stage 2. They are learning the chorus to some of the songs and will have non-speaking parts . We will let you know of any costume requests and dates in good time via the school newsletter.