

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new academic year. I hope that you have all enjoyed the summer break despite the unpredictable weather !

Below I have outlined the broad learning themes for each subject. I have also added a broad overview of EYFS learning intentions Terms 1 and 2 and these can be found on the school website.

EYFS Maths	We will begin with basic maths principles involving matching and sorting before moving on to looking at the mathematical representations of numbers to 3. We will be learning number bonds off by heart (number bonds for 3 are $0+3=3$, $1+2$ and visa versa) as well as working with repeating patterns. Children can practise work covered each week using their Mathletics online account . A login is provided in their reading record book and homework is set using this website.
Year 1 Maths	We will work with numbers to 10, learning how to spell these numbers in words, finding one more and one less, using the terms greater than, less than and equal to. We will also introduce part whole models and learn out number bonds to 10 off by heart. Children can practise work covered each week using their Mathletics online account . A login is provided in their reading record book and homework is set using this website.
Year 2 Maths	We will be working on place value with numbers to 100. We will be introducing the place value chart as well as partitioning numbers to make 100 (partitioning is another term for splitting – so if we know that $35 + 65 = 100$ we also know $100 - 35 = 65$ etc). We will recap counting in 2, 5 and 10 and then learn how to count in 3's. Later in the term we will learn how to add 3 single digit numbers efficiently in our heads using number bonds. Children can practise work covered each week using their Mathletics online account . A login is provided in their reading record book and homework is set using this website.
EYFS Phonics	We will begin to learn phonics (letters and sounds) from the second day of school using our scheme : Essential Letters and Sounds. We will cover phase 2 this term which includes most letters of the alphabet and how we say these sounds (it is not the same as the 'nursery alphabet' . We will hold a phonics information event early this term to explain this to you. We have a daily phonics lesson every morning.
Year 1 Phonics	Year 1 recap the phase 5 phonics they covered at the end of last year and by the end of the term they will have covered all the phonics sounds needed for the Year 1 screening test. The programme uses the rest of the year to cover the many alternative sounds used in the English language. Phonics lessons are daily and held in the morning.
Year 2 Spelling	During the phonics sessions for Year 1 and EYFS, Year 2 work on the spelling patterns needed for Year 2 using Spelling Shed. Children can also continue this practise at home using the log in in for EdShed in their reading record books.
EYFS English	Children begin with recognising and writing their name. We will also have daily story time to immerse children in story structure as well as non-fiction texts. Children are supported to listen for short periods and answer questions about the information they have been given. We introduce props and role play opportunities to help children understand the stories and make up their own endings to the stories they have heard. As phonics lessons progress, children are supported to blend 3 sounds together to form simple words which can be read and written. By the end of the term, those who are ready, will be writing short words and labels such as hat, cat, bed etc
Year 1 and 2 English	Children work together as a class to develop their story writing skills with work tailored to their ability. We will begin with some recap of grammar and letter formation in the first week of term before beginning a narrative based on The Song of The Sea. Later in the term we will focus on some non-fiction writing letters based on the book Meerkat Mail. Year 1 will focus on making their sentences more complex by using adjectives to

	describe. They will also secure the use of full stops, capital letters and question marks. Year 2 will focus on varying their sentence structures to interest the reader, use capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks independently. They will also begin to use a wider variety of conjunctions in their writing (and, because, but, so, etc) Children will have a weekly spelling and grammar lesson with Mrs Russell on Thursday afternoons.
Handwriting	EYFS will focus on developing the finger strength to hold pencils with a tripod grip. They will experiment with drawing vertical and horizontal lines, curved lines and circles as a pre-cursor to writing. Those who are ready will learn how to form each letter of the alphabet correctly. Year 1 will continue to practice their letter formation, gradually reducing the size of their letters. Year 2 will begin to learn how to join their handwriting this year into a neat and legible writing style.
Geography	We will learn about seasonal changes and weather this term. We will explore the changing seasons and the names for our seasons this term. This will include a trip to Westonbirt Arboretum in October. There we will join with our friends from North Cerney school to learn about the changes we see in Autumn as well as some work on parts of a tree. Please look out for details on parent mail. We will also look at weather and weather forecasts as part of our work on seasonal changes. We will learn about the four countries of the UK, their capital cities and how weather changes across the UK. Please look out for the knowledge organiser which will tell you the key facts to discuss with your child at home. EYFS will join the class for some of each session and will continue their learning about seasonal changes in our weekly Forest School sessions every Friday afternoon– more details later.
Science	Our topic this term is Our Body and Our Senses. In this topic we will learn the names of key parts of our bodies and what they do. We will also learn about our senses – sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch. We will learn how our body uses these senses to help us make sense of our world. Please refer to the knowledge organiser to discuss with your child which parts of the organiser they have learnt about each week.
RE	Miss Bevans will teach RE every Friday morning. We will learn about how Christians believe God made the world. We will look at the creation story from the perspectives of Christians. We will also take part in a Harvest Festival service in the church.
Computing	We begin the term with E-Safety, a topic all children and adults must be aware of. We will have three sessions aimed at different year groups. These sessions give children the tools to keep them safe online and use age- appropriate videos from ThinkUKnow. Please take a look at this website and keep up to date with how to keep your child safe when using technology. Later in the term Year 1 and 2 will about how to use spreadsheets.
PE	PE will be held on Thursday afternoons and Friday mornings. Miss Cole will join us to go swimming at Cirencester Leisure Centre for 5 Thursday afternoons this term – keep a look out for the starting date. On Friday mornings, the children will learn how to play hockey with Miss Coles.
Design and Technology	We will be learning how to construct moving pictures this term. We will learn about pivots, levers and sliders and make a page from a book with moving elements. EYFS will learn how to cut card accurately, draw shapes which can be cut out, use a hole punch, glue and split pins to make simple levers and pivots.
RSE	We will be completing a Growing and Changing topic this term – looking at how we have changed since we were babies. We will look at how we care for babies, looking at how our skills have developed since we were babies and discussing who can help us when we are learning new skills. Later in the term we will look at good and bad

	surprises and secrets and what we do with these. We will also discuss safeguarding using the excellent resources from NSPCC (Your Pants are Private)
Music	Miss Bevans will teach Music every Friday morning. This term we are looking at timbre and dynamics in musical compositions. The children will also learn to read and write with basic musical notation before composing and performing their own piece of music. EYFS will concentrate on learning and reciting nursery rhymes and songs as well as experimenting with the sounds made by various musical instruments.

Homework

Homework in Key Stage 1 is limited to that which has the most impact on your child's progress. Whilst we do not set written homework each week in Key Stage 1 please ensure that you support your child by

- Reading to your child each day (bedtime story – books can be borrowed)
- Hear your child read their reading book daily (5 mins a day) and record this in their reading record so that we can see where you have got to.
- Complete any mathematics homework set – mathematics is linked to the work we do in maths each week but does require an adult to sit with your child to complete these. (15 mins a week)
- Practice key maths skills as outlined in the KIRFS (Key Instant Recall Facts) sheet given out every term. These are the key skills needed by your child to make their maths lessons easier. Please practise them as often as you can – it could be practised in the car to school, counting as you go up and down stairs, 5 mins after dinner etc whatever works for you.

Forest School (Friday afternoon)

Forest School will begin for children in EYFS and Year 1 from the second week of term. Children need to bring in a pair of wellies, home clothes in a bag. We will change into these in school. We can provide a waterproof all in one suit but once the weather turns cold a coat will also be needed. The sessions are taken by our Forest School leader, Miss Law who is also a qualified teacher and Mrs Howe and Mrs Emmerson. They take place in a private woodland, ten minutes walk from school. They offer a multitude of opportunities for child led and adult led learning in the natural world and is very popular with our children.

Swimming (Thursday afternoons)

Will begin for all children this term for four terms. We will have 5 lessons each term with qualified swimming teachers at Cirencester Leisure Centre. We will let you know when the first sessions begins.

PE (Thursday afternoons when not swimming and Friday mornings)

Please come to school in normal school uniform and carry PE kit in a bag. We will get changed for PE in the classroom. If your child has laces please ensure that they have learnt how to tie them independently. Please remember to label all PE kit (and school uniform) clearly with your child's name so that we can return the items when they are lost.

If you have any questions or concerns, please come and chat to me after school.

With best wishes, Mrs Sping

