



Year R *Bushmead Primary School*

Autumn Term 1 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Value for October is INTEGRITY

Our well-being theme this half term is TO CONNECT WITH OTHERS

We have had an amazing start to our year and the staff are so proud of how well the children have settled into life at Bushmead. It is so lovely to walk around our classrooms and see the children so happily engaged in their play, lessons and making new friendships.

Uniform

Please ensure that every item of your child's clothing and equipment is named please. When things do go missing, it makes it much easier for us to reunite items with their owners.

Children need a coat in school everyday, we do go outside and our good old British weather is so changeable!

In line with our uniform policy for Reception:

- children should not be wearing red knitted jumpers or cardigans, only a plain red sweatshirt
- Plain black trainers or plain white trainers should be worn everyday
- Black school trousers are not part of our uniform, we wear black jogging bottoms only
- Hair accessories should be in school colours only and not too large

Phonics

As a school, we use the phonics programme 'Little Wandle' to teach our children how to read and word build. Children have a daily phonics lesson and have begun to learn the first phonemes (sounds) already and are beginning to put these together to blend and make words. Within the Home Learning Logs are sheets to help you support your child at home each week. They detail the phonemes we have learnt over the week, how we teach the letter formation and some of the sounding games we use. Later on we will include 'Tricky Words' - those that do not fit the phonic rules too.

We understand that Phonics can seem like an alien language to many parents, we all learnt to read in a completely different way too! So with that in mind, we will continue to share information and tips to help you on ClassDojo as we progress throughout the year. We are also more than happy for you to come and chat to us if you need any support or guidance at any time.

Reading

Reading is very important at Bushmead and we endeavour to foster a love of books in all of our children. In class, we read stories daily with our classes and ensure they have opportunities to experience a wealth of different genres, authors and themes. A huge thank you to all of our parents who have embraced home reading, it has been lovely to see so many children come in excitedly telling us about their reading and enjoying sharing their books with you.

Please do keep sharing other stories at home too. Children love hearing adults read to them and it provides a wonderful opportunity to build their vocabulary, understanding of the world around them and imaginations.

We do need to ask that **water bottles are not put into reading bags at any time** to prevent any damage to our books. Thank you.

Homework Activities

Again, thank you to everyone who has supported their child with homework activities. The videos and pictures have been fantastic to see.

There are still a few families that have not engaged with the tasks yet and we must remind you that **all homework tasks (reading, phonics and the online activity task) form part of Bushmead's Homework Policy and are to be completed weekly by all children.** If you are having trouble accessing any of the elements, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Dates and Events

Monday 30th September	The start of Black History month
Friday 18th October	Fundraising for Luton Foodbank
Monday 21st October	Parents Consultation evening
Wednesday 23rd October	Parents Consultation evening
Friday 25th October	INSET (<u>staff only in school</u>)
Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November	Half term
Monday 4th November	Children back to school (Autumn 2)

Curriculum Overview

Phonics

- ★ To learn the phonemes s,a,t,p,i,m,n,d,g,o,c,k,ck,e,u,r,h,b,f,l
- ★ To begin to word build and blend
- ★ To learn the tricky words I, is, the

Maths

- ★ To recognise, write and know how to make numbers to 5
- ★ To be able to subitise (recognise amounts without needing to count) to 5
- ★ To compare and describe different amounts

Skills

- ★ To recall and talk about stories we have heard.
- ★ To listen to others and ask questions.
- ★ To think about feelings, both our own and those of characters in stories
- ★ To use our drawing, cutting and joining skills to make models and pictures.
- ★ To practise writing our name.

PE

- ★ To move different parts of our bodies in a controlled way
- ★ To develop cooperation skills through games

Computing

- ★ To use technology to record things we have learnt
- ★ To use iPads to take and edit images

Music

- ★ To learn to sing a range of songs and nursery rhymes
- ★ To play simple percussion instruments

The Reception Team

Gemma Kiff, Marie Scott, Katy Billington , Leanne Campbell and Niamh Kelly

Our Vision:

At Bushmead, children are empowered to be active, confident learners where they are inspired to be creative and excel.

