



*Year 1*  
*Bushmead Primary School*

Spring 2 2025

**Good Morning Parents and Carers,**

**Our value for March is Positivity and the value for April is Forgiveness.**

**Our well-being theme this half term is 'Connect with Nature'.**

## **General Information**

Welcome back to school for a new half term, we hope everyone had a lovely break. It's hard to believe that we are already half way through the school year!

This half term our main topic title is 'Changes' linking to our topic of Plants.

In English, we begin the half term looking at fact and fiction through the topic of food and plants. We will share the stories 'Oliver's Vegetables, Oliver's Fruit Salad and Oliver's Milkshake' written by Vivian French. During Book Week we are exploring the book 'The Search for the Great Arctic Jellyfish' by Chloe Savage. We then focus on non fiction information and instructions related to our Science work on plants and DT work.

As you know, phonics is a key strategy for developing reading and writing skills and we are delighted so many of the children have been able to join us for the 'Funky phonics clubs' run after school. This half term it is Maple's turn. The children continue to have daily taught phonics sessions as well as developing a range of reading and writing skills in their lessons. Handwriting and SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) areas also continue to be embedded in our work.

### Homework

Thank you for supporting us with homework. The expectations for this half term remain the same:

#### Reading

We expect all children to be reading a minimum of three times a week at home, ideally five times, please then sign and add comments to your child's reading record. The reading record and books should come to and from school every day. Children's reading records will continue to be checked on a

Friday and two new reading books sent home on this day. Your support with regular reading at home is vital and makes a huge difference to your children. It is expected that the children will be reading their books several times to help develop their confidence, fluency and comprehension. Please remember that you also have access to the ECollins books that the children read in school with these updated weekly too. Children will continue to be rewarded by 'earning' house points and raffle tickets depending on the number of times that they have read at home each week, with a prize draw at the end of each half term.

### Phonics

Each week phonics sounds are taught. Children are then given graphemes and words to practise and an activity to help them apply their learning. Phonics tasks are shared each Friday in your child's phonics homework folder.

### Maths

Children are given weekly maths practice which is set as a homework task on MyMaths.

All children are expected to complete these weekly pieces of homework which are set each Friday and due the following Friday. Teachers have been asked to follow up if homework is not being done. If completing work online is an issue or your child is having trouble accessing or completing the tasks, please speak to your child's class teacher so we can assist you.

**Please ensure you continue to regularly check Class Dojo, as this is a key method of us communicating messages to you and where homework tasks are set each Friday.**

## Curriculum Overview

### English

- ★ To apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words.
- ★ To accurately read aloud books that are consistent with their developing phonic knowledge.
- ★ To check the text makes sense to them as they read and correct inaccurate reading.
- ★ To re-read books to build up their fluency and confidence in word reading.
- ★ To participate in discussions about what is read to them, explaining clearly their understanding, making predictions based on what has been read and recalling events.
- ★ To develop vocabulary, linking new word meanings to those that are already known.
- ★ To compose sentences orally before writing, using finger spaces between words and capital letters and full stops.
- ★ To read and spell common exception ('tricky') words.
- ★ To spell the days of the week.
- ★ To write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher.
- ★ To write a diary entry.
- ★ To write factual sentences based on our topic of plants.
- ★ To write a set of instructions.

### Maths

- ★ To explore subtraction within 20 by counting back, using number bond knowledge and finding the difference.
- ★ To explore missing number problems.

- ★ To explore counting, comparing and ordering numbers to 50 and the value of tens and ones.
- ★ To count by making groups of 10.
- ★ To partition numbers into tens and ones (to 50).
- ★ To find 1 more and 1 less than any number between zero and 50.
- ★ To compare lengths and heights of objects using language such as “longer than”, “shorter than” and “taller than”.
- ★ To begin to measure the lengths and heights of objects, using non-standard units of measure and by using a ruler and the standard unit of measure of centimetres.
- ★ To explore mass. Children use a variety of non-standard units, such as cubes or bricks, to measure and compare the masses of objects.

#### Science

- ★ To identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees.
- ★ To identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees.
- ★ To observe closely and identify and classify.
- ★ To plant different seeds and observe how they grow and stay healthy.
- ★ To use simple scientific language to talk about what we have found out and be encouraged to ask and answer questions.

#### Art and Design

- ★ To develop sketching and drawing skills when making observational drawings of plants and foods.

#### Computing

- ★ To find and understand examples of where technology is used outside school.
- ★ To use technology to support learning across the curriculum.

#### Design and Technology

- ★ To understand where food comes from, in particular fruits and vegetables.
- ★ To use the basic principles of a healthy diet to prepare simple dishes.
- ★ To develop cutlery skills using a knife to chop and spoon to scoop.

#### Geography

- ★ To identify seasonal and daily weather patterns in the UK.
- ★ To use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of the school grounds.

#### Music

- ★ To explore different styles of music.
- ★ To explore and understand concepts of pulse and rhythm through songs, rhymes, games and playing instruments.
- ★ To learn new songs linked to our topics using their voices expressively and creatively.

## PE

- ★ Ball skills (hands) - To use tracking skills to stop the ball and then roll it with accuracy towards a target.
- ★ Gymnastics (body parts) - To combine a range of movements to create a mini-sequence.

## PSHE & RSHE

- ★ To think about basic personal hygiene routines and why these are important.
- ★ To explore ways of keeping safe and the safe use of household products, including medicines.
- ★ To learn about rules for keeping safe (in familiar and unfamiliar situations).

## RE

- ★ To know why Easter matters to Christians and what Christians believe about Holy Week and Easter.

## The Year 1 Team

Teachers - Sarah Anderson, Sian Marks, Saima Rahman and Daisy Padgett.

## Our Vision:

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

