



Year R Bushmead Primary School

Spring Term 1 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Value for January is INDEPENDENCE

Our well-being theme this half term is YOGA AND MEDITATION

Welcome to the Spring Term and Happy New Year! We hope you all had a wonderful holiday and would like to thank you for all of the beautiful Christmas gifts and cards you sent in, we were very touched by your kindness.

This term we start with a wonderful project on 'owls'. Alongside our very exciting visit from some real life owls, we will also be:

- Reading Owl babies and thinking about what characters might say and how we can show emotions by using our voices in different ways.
- Using videos, books and other materials to learn facts about owls and creating our own 'Owl TV' programmes to show what we have discovered.
- Thinking about seasons and what signs we can look for, using our observations to make seasonal owl models.

Later on in the half term, we will continue to learn about celebrations from different cultures and will spend time reading stories and learning about Chinese New Year. Finally, we will focus on animals, their habitats and how we can look after their environments.

Reading

Reading is the number-one skill for parents to encourage in the early years of school. It gives children the essential building blocks to succeed.

At Bushmead, we ask that children read a minimum of **THREE** times a week to an adult at home, and that you write a short comment in their Home Learning Log each time you do. We will continue to change books and check the reading records on Friday when we change the books.

Your child will continue to bring home three books each week:

- A reading book aligned to their current phonic understanding.
- A Collins Big Cat/Little Wandle book, which they will have shared at school too. Again, this is aligned with their phonic confidence level.

- A library book to share with you, discussing the characters, plot, reading with funny voices and developing their love of reading.

Homework

As you will have seen from the ParentMail sent out on 5th January, home work at Bushmead has changed across the school. All children will be expected to complete three activities across the week:

- **Phonics practise**- these will continue to be the sheets we add to the Reading Records weekly with the phonemes we have learnt that week; words to practise blending and tricky words to learn.
- **Reading**- as outlined above, reading to an adult at least three times a week.
- **Activity Task** - this will be a task shared with parents via ClassDojo. Photos or short videos of the completed tasks should be shared with the class teacher via ClassDojo.

Activity tasks will be shared on a Friday and need to be returned the following Friday.

All three homework tasks are to be completed on a weekly basis, as outlined clearly in the Parentmail, they are not optional. Teachers will be monitoring engagement and will be following up if homework is not being completed. If you do encounter any problems with any aspect of the homework, please speak to the class teacher as soon as possible and we will be more than happy to offer support

Summer Uniform Reminder

It is a little strange to be thinking of the summer term and warmer weather as it is so cold at present, however we know some parents and carers like to be super organised! Please be aware our summer uniform differs from Years 1-6.

ALL children will be expected to wear:

- ★ Plain black PE shorts- not cycling shorts style or leggings
- ★ A plain white polo shirt- as for the winter uniform
- ★ A plain red sweatshirt- as for the winter uniform
- ★ Plain white or black socks
- ★ Plain black or white trainers

Summer school dresses, skirts or culottes are not part of the summer uniform, so please do not purchase these.

Summer uniforms can be worn when we return to school after the Easter holidays.

Dates and Events

- Monday 6th January – INSET day (staff only)
- Tuesday 7th January – Children return to school
- Monday 20th - Friday 24th January- Well-being Week
 - ‘Blue Monday’ where children are invited to wear ‘bright clothes’ to school (non-uniform and no donation)
- 17th - 21st February - Half term
- Monday 24th February - Spring 2 term starts

Curriculum Overview

Phonics

- ★ Learning the phonemes: ai ee igh oa ar or oo (zoom) oo (book) ur ow oi ear air er
- ★ Continuing to practise word building and blending, including words with double letters: dd mm tt bb rr gg pp ff and longer words
- ★ Learn the tricky words: was you they my by all are sure pure

Maths

- ★ Subitising, counting and ordering numbers to 5
- ★ Using ordinal numbers to describe order (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc)
- ★ Using the part-part-whole model to look at different ways to make 5, 6 and 7
- ★ Comparing amounts using the language of 'more than' 'fewer than' and 'equal to'

Skills

- ★ To join in stories using actions, props and repetition
- ★ To write words, captions and sentences
- ★ To use ICT to record ideas, performances and take photographs
- ★ To make observations and describe what we have seen.
- ★ To use our creative skills to make pictures and models using a range of materials.
- ★ To ask questions and listen carefully to explanations.

PE

- ★ To perform balances using different parts of their bodies, showing good control
- ★ To learn how to perform different rolls (log, teddy bear and forward)
- ★ To link movements together to create short routines, and thinking about how to improve their performances

Music

- ★ Continue to build our singing skills
- ★ Practise following a conductor when playing percussion instrument

Kind regards,

The Reception Team

Miss Kiff, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Billington, Mrs. Campbell and Miss Kelly

Our Vision:

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

