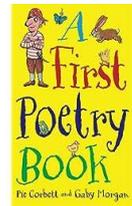




Bamburgh Class – Autumn Term 1



Welcome to Bamburgh Class (Year 1). We hope you have had a wonderful summer holiday. Your teaching team are Miss Richardson class teacher and Mrs Hutchinson teaching support assistant.

Our topics this half term are the Great Fire of London & Everyday Materials in science. Our key texts this half term are:

- The Great Fire of London by Emma Adams & James Weston Lewis
- My First Poetry Book by Gaby Morgan & Pie Corbett
- Peace at Last by Jill Murphy
- Elmer by David McKee
- Let's Build a House by Mick Manning
- We Are Britain! by Benjamin Zephaniah.

During this term children will carry out a range of activities related to our topic across the curriculum. Please see our curriculum overview for further information.

Dates for your diary:

On Friday 15th September, Bamburgh Class will have a special outdoor learning day with Bridie Melkerts from Mudlarks. As scientists children will explore and investigate our school grounds and surrounding environment thinking about the seasons and looking for seasonal changes in our local environment.

On Friday 13th October we will have our beach school day linked to our topic – further details will follow shortly.

Phonics and Reading

Children will participate in daily sessions of phonics, guided reading and handwriting.

Your child will have the opportunity to take home three books a week. The first is a Book Bag Book, which is closely matched to the sounds they are learning in their phonics lessons. One is an Extra Practice Book so they can practise other sounds and tricky words. The last is a library book, which children can choose for themselves on a Friday. Our Librarians will help children to choose a book of their choice; this is also a fabulous opportunity to share a different book at home. Library books are exchanged on Friday.

Your child should read both the Book Bag Book and the Extra Practice Book a minimum of two times, as rereading is an essential part of learning to read. Books will be changed initially once a week on a **Friday**.

To help our pupils take good care of the books that we share, your child will be given a blue strong waterproof reading folder. These folders will help pupils keep their reading materials - such as reading books, library books, sound booklets and reading records – organised. Please avoid placing other items such as water bottles and fruit in these folders.

Reading records are a really useful tool. They help us understand how pupils are getting on with their reading at home. We will also be using the reading records in school, and adults will use either an 'I read with an adult today' or 'I've done guided reading today' stamp to keep them updated.

Reading records should be written in every day, as pupils should be reading at home every day. This could be done before breakfast, after school or before bed time. As reading records are to be used at home and at school, it is important that the reading records are in school daily so that teachers can write in them if they need to. Reading records are a great way for parents, teachers and pupils themselves to see how much progress children are making with their reading.

Homework and Spellings

Your child will have weekly spellings to learn at home linked to their phonics or common exception words. The spellings for Year 1 will be available on the school website on our class page. A paper copy of the spellings will

also be sent home at the start of the term in your child's blue reading folder. We will have a spelling check at the end of each week starting from the second week. Usually this will take place on a **Friday** (if we have a trip or beach school day on a Friday then this will be on a Thursday). Your child may be set other homework tasks. This may be a phonic activity, a written piece, number work, some research or an online task throughout the year.

PE

PE will be on Tuesday and Thursday. In Year 1 we ask that children come to school in their PE kit on these days. We would also ask that your child's P.E. kit and school uniform items are **clearly named**, as we cannot return unnamed items. PE uniform is:

- Plain white t-shirt or school polo shirt
- Plain navy or black shorts (summer)
- Plain navy, black or grey jogging bottoms/leggings for outdoor sports
- School jumper

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child has a named water bottle school for daily use.

Communication

In year 1 we do not use the Early Years resource Tapestry. At the start of each half term I will send a letter and a curriculum overview to parents about our topics. Information on our learning experiences and events we will be recorded on our class page on the school website throughout the term.

As your child settles into to year 1 there might be occasions where you need to share information with us. On a morning our main priority is to ensure that children come into class safely, whilst helping your child to settle quickly and calmly into their school routine. If you have a quick brief message you wish to share, please feel free to have a quick chat with myself or Mrs Hutchinson when our door opens. Should you need to speak to us about a matter in more depth then you should contact our office by telephone or email (admin@hipsburn.northumberland.sch.uk) leaving a message; information will then be passed onto class teachers via the office and be dealt and responded to appropriately in accordance with our school policy.

Should your child require medication throughout the school day, then I ask that the medicine is delivered to the school office where appropriate forms can be filled in to give permission for medicine to be administered at school.

Ways to help your child:

- Read stories to your child, to develop the love of reading.
- Listen to your child read on a daily basis.
- Help your child to learn all their phonic sounds.
- Carry out spelling activities and learn weekly spellings.
- Visit the library to look for books to support our topic.
- Use the Internet to research our topic.
- Play English and math games on our virtual learning environment at www.school360.co.uk.

Useful links:

- School 360 (activities and tasks set on Google classroom).
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>
- <https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/>

We look forward to seeing you all again to begin our exciting learning journey!

Kind regards

Miss Richardson & Mrs Hutchinson