



Autumn 2024 Bluebells Class Newsletter



Dear Families,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the new school year! We hope you've had an enjoyable summer and that your children are feeling refreshed and ready for the new term. Below are some reminders, useful information and an overview of our learning for autumn.

Staff

Teachers: Miss Maddocks (Monday to Thursday), Mrs Jones (Friday)

Teaching Assistants across Lower Key Stage Two: Mrs Hart, Mrs Jones, Mrs O'Dwyer, Mrs Hamlett, Mrs Casson and Mrs Dillon

General Information

- All equipment needed for lessons will be provided (pens, pencils, felt tips etc.) so there is no need for individual pencil cases to be brought in
- Morning snack will be available to purchase or children can bring their own **healthy** snack, ideally fruit
- Reading books and records will be next home next week (WC 9th Sept). Individual reading books should be brought into school every day. Reading records should also be brought in every day and will be reviewed weekly
- Your child will need a named water bottle in school each day. Please could we ask that only water is brought into school, rather than juice

PE

On your child's PE day, they should come to school in their kit and remain in it for the whole day. Our **PE kit is red school logo PE shirt/plain red t-shirt, black shorts/joggers and pumps/trainers. Football kit should not be worn.** Our usual days for PE this term will be **Monday and Thursday**. If this changes, we will message you

Expected Homework

- Reading — please read at home as often as possible. Your child will either have a reading book from a scheme or a book of their choice, if they are a free-reader
- Maths homework — a weekly/fortnightly task will be posted onto the class Homework page of the website, set on MyMaths or sent home each Wednesday. This will usually be an online task, a game or a times table activity

Optional homework

- There is also a menu of termly optional homework tasks on the class web pages. All activities are linked to our learning in class so it's a great way for your child to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the subjects we're covering. Please encourage your child to complete these tasks and they can bring in their work to celebrate on a **Wednesday**. Alternatively, you can email us a photo of their learning to share in class on a Wednesday

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please let us know. Please contact the office via admin@tarporleyce.cheshire.sch.uk to arrange a time for a phone call or a meeting. We're so excited to get to know our new Bluebells and we can't wait to see what they'll achieve this term!

A big thank you for your support,
Helen Maddocks and Hannah Jones



AUTUMN 2024 Bluebells Years 3 and 4



English

We have a books-based approach to the teaching of writing and we choose books that will inspire, entertain and excite our children. We ask that you don't read these books in advance as it's lovely to discover them together. It's also important that we can develop their prediction skills which is difficult if they already know the book!

Core text for autumn 1: *Gorilla* by Anthony Browne which we'll use to inspire a fantasy story

Core text for autumn 2: *Leon and the Place Between* by Graham Baker-Smith which we'll use to develop our diary-writing skills

In Guided Reading, we'll be exploring *A World Full of Animal Stories: Folk Tales and Legends* by Angela McAllister, and in autumn 2, we'll read the fantasy story *The Train to Impossible Places* by P.G. Bell.

Maths

Number and Place Value

Recall of addition and subtraction key facts

Addition and Subtraction

Multiplication and Division

Religious Education – Hindu Dharma and Christianity

Answering the Big Questions *How do Hindus view God and celebrate Diwali?* and *How do Hindus worship?* will be the focus of our learning this term, before we explore *Why is Jesus described as 'light of the world'?* through concepts such as saviour, Emmanuel, messiah and the trinity.

Science – Living things, classification and their habitats

We'll learn to recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways, explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in our local and wider environment. We'll also recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

Science – Electricity

In this unit of work, we will be learning to identify common appliances that run on electricity and we'll construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers.

Geography – Why are rainforests important to us?

In this unit, we'll focus on identifying where rainforests are in the world, what the Amazon rainforest is like, who lives in the rainforest and how rainforests are changing.

History – How did the achievements of the Ancient Maya impact their society and beyond?

Our learning will look at how the Maya settled in the rainforest, how important chocolate was to the Maya, what they believed, how the Maya reflected world beliefs in their inventions, what archaeological evidence can tell us and what caused their decline.

Art and Design – Gestural Drawing with Charcoal

Our artwork will focus on making loose, gestural drawings with charcoal, and exploring drama and performance.

Design and Technology

Our D&T learning will link with our Science this term and will focus on electrical circuits where we'll design and make lights for a circus tent.

Computing

Pupils will learn how to keep themselves safe while using the internet as well as learning about branching databases and the essential components of a computer

French

This term, our budding linguists will focus on phonics and pronunciation and naming musical instruments. Tres bien!

How you can support at home...

- While we request that you avoid the core English texts (so we don't get any spoilers!), any reading or further research you can support your child with, which we call pre-learning, will be of huge benefit. We favour the local library over online research, but any additional learning linked to any of our topics would be great.
- Supporting your child with their quick recall of multiplication and related division facts will make so many areas of maths easier and will stand them in good stead for the next stage of their learning. Pupils have to know all facts to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. There are links to games and activities on our class pages to support with this.
- All the activities on the optional homework menu (which you can download from our class pages) link with the learning taking place during the autumn term. We'd recommend encouraging your child to choose from the menu – the activities can be done in any order and at any point during the term – so they have opportunities to deepen their understanding and practise their skills.