



## NEWBOTTLE & CHARLTON CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Every person matters, every moment counts "I can do all this through him who gives me strength"

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Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Smith

Chair Of Governors: Lady Hayter

10<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Dear Parents,

### OAK CLASS LETTER - TERM 3 & 4

Welcome back to a new term! Firstly, Mrs Bray, Mrs Beckhurst and I would like to say thank you for the lovely Christmas cards and gifts, we are very lucky to have such thoughtful children and parents. I hope you all had a wonderful break and are feeling ready for the term ahead.

#### **Creative Curriculum**

We have started the term with a whole school topic on stained glass windows. This has started with a wonderful trip to Peterborough Cathedral where we were amazed by the beautiful windows. We will use these windows as inspiration to create our own versions of stained glass windows and find links to glass in other subject areas too. Our topic for the rest of the term is 'Toy Story' and further information about this will be given to you at the beginning of the topic.

#### **English/Phonics**

In English we will continue to embed the basics of writing such as capital letters, full stops and finger spaces as well as developing the ability to write in full sentences. We will do this through a number of exciting story books based on toys. We will continue to have daily phonics, with reception learning phase 3 and year 1 learning phase 5 alternative pronunciations of sounds. Please refer to the Oak class page of the website if you would like to know which words and sounds this includes.

#### **Reading**

In order for children to make good progress in their reading they **need** to read on a regular basis at home, please make sure that you are filling out children's reading records when you have read with them so that we know to change their books. Children in Oak Class will be listened to read at least once a week either in the form of an individual read or within a guided reading session. Children have enjoyed having the option of visiting the library at lunch time and this term they will be introduced to how the library system works and the children will each be able to choose their own books to borrow.

#### **Spelling**

In Year 1 we will continue to have a big focus on spelling and the spelling rules set for homework each week. The children have a new list of words to learn and have already been tested on these as a baseline. Since introducing Spelling Shed we have seen a remarkable improvement in the children's spelling and would encourage children to use it as a fun learning tool. Reception children will now be joining the rest of the school for the spelling dictation and a list of 10 words for your child to learn will be given out with homework. The children will take part in a dictation exercise for the first time on these words at the end of term (Easter). This involves me reading out a series of silly sentences to the children, which include the 10 words,



and I will then ask them to have a go at writing that word. It will be done in an informal and fun environment - the children are very fond of writing so I have no doubt that they will enjoy this activity.

## Maths

In Maths reception children are continuing to work on numbers to 20, place value, addition and subtraction. We will also continue to explore size, weight and capacity and have more exposure to time and money. In year 1 we are continuing our work on addition and subtraction, with a goal of being able to recall our number bonds to 20. We will then move onto multiplication, division and fractions. We will also be learning to tell the time, use coins and name 3D shapes and begin to measure and record height/length, mass/weight and capacity/volume. Throughout this work the children will be focussing on recognising and forming numbers correctly.

## RE

This term the focus will be on special places and what makes them sacred. This will mainly look at Christian and Muslim places of worship but there will also be opportunities to explore those from Judaism and Hinduism too. After this we will learn about Easter through the Understanding Christianity topic of Salvation. During this we will explore why Easter matters to Christians and why Christians put a cross in an Easter Garden.

## PE

PE this term will be on a Wednesday and Friday afternoon. Our Wednesday PE session will now be Real Gym which will be led by Miss England and Mrs Thomas. On Friday we will continue with our Real PE lessons which will be led by me. Please can PE kits be kept in school all week as at times we are flexible with our PE sessions. Please can you check your child's PE kit and make sure all garments are clearly named. After half term the children will move to having Trampolining on a Tuesday.

## Science and Computing

In science this term we are exploring everyday materials, where we will identify different materials and look at their properties. We will also be looking at animals including humans and identify parts of the body and the senses which relate to them. Whilst undertaking these areas of science we will be developing our ability to work scientifically by making observations, asking simple questions and performing simple tests. In computing Year 1 will be completing a video project linked to puppets and toys after half term, before half term children will be focussing on statistics and understanding how to collect data for a range of different purposes- including weather changes. Reception will be retelling a story using film linked with toys after half term, before half term children will be developing their understanding of the computer and start to develop their key basic skills using laptops and tablets.

As part of their transition into the normal school routine, Reception will now be joining the rest of the school on the playground on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. You are still welcome to bring them up the path on these mornings and I will be on the playground to greet them until they feel confident. If you have any concerns then please feel free to come and talk to me either in the morning or after school, you can also email me on [hdooley@newbottleandcharlton.co.uk](mailto:hdooley@newbottleandcharlton.co.uk). Finally, I would like to say what a pleasure it has been to teach and get to know your children and I am very much looking forward to seeing what this next term has to offer.

Kind regards,  
Miss H Dooley