

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back, I hope you have all had a relaxing and refreshing break and your children are excited to begin our final term of the academic year! Please find above information regarding our learning in Bowfell for the first part of the Summer Term.

Morning routine

As you will already be aware, we have made some changes to our morning routine from the beginning of the summer term. Reception will now complete their morning tasks at the table at the front of the classroom; book bags, water bottles and reading books remain in the same places. Year One's morning tasks will be set up in Helvellyn classroom next door to Bowfell, along with a board for choosing lunches, a reading book basket and box for reading folders. Water bottles should remain in the same place. Nursery will find their coat pegs on the right-hand side as you enter the classroom, water bottles should be placed by the sink on the left, where you will also find lunch menu choices for each day. Any letters for Nursery children will now be placed directly into book bags; please ensure your child has theirs for each session they attend. Welcome activities for Nursery children will be on the carpet area in Bowfell, children will not have access to the rest of the provision until after the register has been taken.

Please can we remind parents and carers that once children are settled and engaged, it is a good time to say goodbye and leave the classroom! We pride ourselves on our open door policy and enjoy welcoming you into the classroom, however it can get busy some mornings and we want to maintain our calm learning environment as much as possible. If you are still in class when the bell rings, please can you ensure that you leave **promptly**. Year One children will come through to Bowfell when the bell is rung at 8.45am and we will be unable to start our morning session until all parents/carers have departed. Anyone remaining after this time will be politely asked to leave. Please be reminded that sessions for Nursery children begin at 8.45am and we welcome all children from 8.35am each day.

Reading books - FAO Reception/Year One

Please continue to bring reading books in each morning. Reading books will continue to be changed on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays** only. Please do not be afraid to re-read books with your child. This is such an important aspect of reading for both children in Reception and in Year One, regardless of their ability. It helps to develop important skills such as fluency, comprehension and allows children to really understand and embed the structure of what they are reading. Please continue to read with your child every day wherever possible. This only needs to be about 5 minutes for Reception children, increasing to 10 minutes for children in Year One - unless they wish to read for longer of course! Reading regularly each day has a huge impact. Please make a short comment in your child's reading record each time they have read at home even if they have only completed part or all of one of their books in school before it comes home. Please note that unless a comment is made next to each book title to indicate that your child has completed it, books won't be changed.

Children in Reception will continue to bring home tricky word lists, please practise these each time they read their books. The list of phase 3 tricky words is much longer than phase 2, therefore practising two or three at a time until your child is confident is advisable as opposed to trying to learn all the words at once. Reception are also learning to write short captions and sentences. We are concentrating on using finger spaces between words, phonetically spelling words and correctly spelling the tricky words learnt so far. Please have a go at home!

Wild Wednesdays! (Reception and Year One)

Next week we will begin our 'Wild Wednesday' sessions which will take place each Wednesday afternoon. This will involve us spending the whole afternoon outdoors (whatever the weather!) The focus of each session will be different; some weeks we will carry out topic work involving science, geography or art, whereas at other times we might have a literacy or maths focus. Check our Bowfell blog for updates. Please can you ensure that your child has suitable outdoor clothing for these sessions on their peg each week: wellies, waterproofs/puddle suits are ideal.

<u> PE</u>

PE lessons this term will take place on a Monday and Thursday afternoon (Reception and Year One). Please ensure that your child has a full PE kit on their peg including pumps for indoor wear and trainers for outdoors. Please ensure all uniform including PE kit and pumps/trainers/shoes are clearly labelled with your child's name. Please can children also have a pair of long jogging bottoms or leggings in school as part of their outdoor PE kit.

<u>Letters</u>

On the shelf next to the door you will find a black box. Please use this for any slips/money that need to go to Mrs Coker in the office. Please do not hand them directly to staff or leave in reading folders, we do not routinely check these for reply slips etc.

Show and Tell (Reception/Year One)

Show and Tell will now take place on a Thursday afternoon. If you are unsure which group your child is in, please look at the list which is pinned onto the blue door on the right as you enter the classroom.

<u>Tapestry</u>

For any parents of children in Nursery or Reception who have not yet activated their online Tapestry account and need a new activation link, please do not hesitate to see Mrs Haslam. Tapestry is a wonderful way of capturing the children's learning in school time and also for you to be able to share things from home.

<u>Clothing</u>

Please can parents of children in Nursery and Reception ensure that their child has at least two spare changes of clothing in a bag on their peg for each session they attend (this doesn't have to be uniform). We are limited with the spare clothing we have and it makes things much easier if your child has their own spares including underwear, socks, tops and bottoms. Children in Nursery and Reception should have a pair of wellies and a puddle suit/waterproof top and trousers. Without these they will be unable to access the sand pit, water wall or mud kitchen when playing outdoors.

If you do have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and see us. Many thanks for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Haslam and the Bowfell Team