



THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

Bishopswood Infant & Junior Schools
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Early Years Newsletter

Friday 3rd November

Dear Parents,

EYFS curriculum

As we mentioned before at Bishopswood, our EYFS curriculum has evolved in order to be in line with our curriculum, which was published in September 2023. We are working throughout the year on aspirations and these will make up the main part of the learning that we are doing with the children. They will evolve each term.

Aspiration 1 – Who am I and where do I belong in the community and the wider world?

This links to your child have a stronger understanding of who they are, managing their feelings, being able to talk about themselves and their family. They will then learn about our school community and the wider world. This links to projects that your child will be doing around the school and in the local community. They will also think about other people and their lives in both the school, Tadley, UK and the wider world. Travelling around with Banjo Robinson (our travelling cat) helps the children understand this.

Aspiration 2 – How can I grow my own food and create a tasty recipe?

This aspiration begins with the exploration of foods, seeds and plants. The children are able to harvest food that have been grown, observe what happens to the world around us as the seasons change and taste food grown locally and in the wider world. They will have the opportunity to grow foods at school and create recipes using this produce. We are hoping to have an opportunity to visit other schools to taste their food and see what they have grown, as well as visit local allotments.

Aspiration 3 – Little people, big ideas.

This final aspiration will give the children the opportunity to learn how to become more curious, ask questions and find out about things that interest them. They will have the opportunity to learn about different talents, jobs and skills that help make the world a more interesting place. The interests and talents of the children will help shape this aspiration, but they will also be given opportunities to learn about nurses, doctors, scientists, musicians, artists, gardeners or anyone who would like to come and share their skills with the children.

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Bishopswood Federation work together to develop kind and considerate children who are resilient, reflective and motivated learners, ready for the challenges that the future holds.

This half term we will mainly be focusing on aspiration 1, however we will also learn about seeds and seasonal changes linked to aspiration 2. The children have enjoyed learning about Bonfire Night and fireworks poems this week. They have been talking about the fireworks they have seen and exploring the sounds they made. Over the coming weeks we will be learning about different celebrations. We will be tasting some traditional snacks eaten during different festivities so please let your class teacher know if your child has any allergies we may not already be aware of. We will also be learning about birth and birthdays. We will be talking about when we were born and that we celebrate our birthday once a year. Please could your child bring in a named photograph of themselves as a **baby or toddler on Monday 20th November**. Photos will be returned at a later date.

Reading

Please make sure you are reading regularly with your child and recording when they read to you in their monkey book. Please see below as an example of comments that could be written in the monkey book. **This should be done at least 3 times a week**. We collect the monkey books on a Friday to check and use this information as part of our whole school reading race competition. Please can all reading books be kept in the book bags, so that we are able to change them with your child when we read with them at school. Below are some examples of comments that could be made in your child's monkey book to show how they are progressing with their reading.

Your child will be coming home with a green phonics book. This is for your child to practise recognising the sounds and for them to be able to practise writing the sounds as well. We will collect the books once a fortnight on a Thursday to add in additional sounds the children have learnt.

Phonics

We would like to invite parents and carers to come into school for an interactive talk about how we teach phonics. This will include a chance for you to get to know our monster phonics scheme, and then work with your child with some phonics games and activities you could replicate at home. This talk will take place on **Tuesday 21st November at 9:15**.

Christmas

Year R will be performing a nativity this term, to share with you the story of the birth of baby Jesus. Dates of our performances and what part your child will play, will be shared with you soon.

Outdoor day

This term, as part of our topic we will be having an outdoor day on **Wednesday 15th November**. Please make sure your child is dressed in appropriate clothing for the day, especially if it is raining. If they have water proof trousers they can bring these in too.

A few reminders

Below are just a few reminders about school rules and routines:

- Our trim trail is available to children during our school day only when the equipment is fully supervised by school staff, so please can you refrain from allowing your child to use it at the beginning or end of the school day.

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- A reminder that on PE days you child should be wearing plain black or grey jogging bottoms/ shorts, a white t-shirt and their school jumper. **All plain stud earrings should be cover over with medical tape.**
- Water bottles should come into school daily and contain water only. They are always available to the children as part of a healthy lifestyle choices. After Christmas the children will be practising the skills required to get changed themselves at school. We will therefore ask you to bring their PE kit into school and we will help them get changes AFTER THE CHRISTMAS BREAK. We will send a reminder out nearer the time.
- As part of our school uniform, we ask that no jewellery comes into school. The children are very physical all day and they might damage themselves or the piece of jewellery. If you child wears earrings, they need to be plain studs and covered over with medical tape on PE days.

Thank you for your on-going support and co-operation.

The Early Years Team

Date	Book title and page number	Parent/Teacher/Pupil Comments
	 <p>You did it! You are now a Lilac level reader! Here is what you need to do while reading in this level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can use a book by myself - I can find the front and back covers - I can turn the pages by myself - I can use my finger to point to the pictures • I can use the pictures to talk about the story or information • I can use the pictures to retell the story in the correct order. • I will read my Lilac book at least three times a week and my grown up will write it in my monkey book. 	
OCT 16th 2020		
OCT 17th 2020	At THE MATCH All	Pointed out the source of the sounds and knew what the sounds should be. Started thinking about how the story would go
OCT 19th 2020	At THE MATCH All	Thinking more about the story. Who wins the match. What people are thinking or saying. Done well
OCT 19th 2020	The Gruffalo Child All	Loves listening to this book Talked about rhyming words.

Date	Book title and page number	Parent/Teacher/Pupil Comments
20-10-20	The Mouse and Elephant	████ told me the story using pictures very well and good sentences spoken too. Well done!
OCT 20th 2020	The Mouse + The Elephant	████ told the story, then we went back through it and thought about what the animals the saw/heard/felt
OCT 22nd 2020	..	Expanded on feelings and also what they might have said to each other. Doing really well
OCT 24th 2020	..	Read + listened well Also tried identifying some of the phrases that he has been learning

Words to learn _____ Amazing reading at home!
 _____ Please keep up the good work and continue recording too
 _____ Thankyou!

Progress _____

Date: _____

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	 <p>You did it! You are now a Lilac level reader! Here is what you need to do while reading in this level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can use a book by myself <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I can find the front and back covers - I can turn the pages by myself - I can use <u>my</u> finger to point to the pictures I can use the pictures to talk about the story or information I can use the pictures to retell the story in the correct order. I will read my Lilac book at least three times a week and my grown up will write it in my monkey book. 	
Oct 16th 2020	read feed the birds	██████ told me the story behind the pictures. And he loved the colours of the peacock at the end. D.K
9/10	Feed the birds.	██████ was very excited to show me his new book and introduce me to the peacock! K.K
20/10	Feed the birds.	██████ told me what was happening in each picture. He shows good comprehension and understanding of...

Date	Book title and page number	Parent/Teacher/Pupil Comments
20.10.20	The Elves & the Shoemaker	██████ enjoyed talking about the pictures. NB
2/11/20	The Elves & the Shoemaker	██████ understood exactly who the shoe maker was and told me "he makes shoes" KK
2.11	Dogs in the Mud!	great recording of ██████ reading at home It's great! Thankyou. Today he enjoyed all about the dogs. J.
5.11	Dogs in the mud.	██████ "read" the book using the pictures to tell the story. He had a good level of understanding of what was happening.

Words to learn

Progress

Date: _____

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