



Forest Academy

Bury Road, Brandon

Suffolk, IP27 0FP

Tel: 01842 890258

E mail: forestadmin@foresteacademy.co.uk

Headteachers : Mrs A Grimes and Mrs L Rourke

KS1 Welcome Letter

Dear parent/carers,



Welcome back to a new year in Key Stage One. We are very excited to get started building lots of golden learning experiences and memories this year with your children. We hope that you have all had a restful summer –we are looking forward to sharing the year ahead with you all. We have a fantastic teaching staff this year, welcoming some new teachers to our team: Mrs Norton will teach Snowdrop class; Miss Vercoe Foxglove; Miss Reeve remains in Bluebell; and we welcome Miss Brooks into Primrose. We are very lucky to have such a fantastic group of Teachers and Teaching Assistants

across Key Stage One.

Topic:

This half term our topic is called 'All About Me.' A great topic to start the year since the children will get to create personal time-lines and family trees. It would be fantastic if you could support your children with this by digging out some of their baby photographs and allowing them to bring them into school. Within this topic the children will also undertake a locality study of Brandon, so we will be taking a visit around the town so we can map it's features and amenities. The Key Stage One children will all get to create unique self-portraits using natural resources found in our Forest School Site and will be looking at the location of Brandon within the world as a whole. It promises to be exciting and practical. For more information on the topic do refer to the Key Stage One overview available on our website.



P.E:

Snowdrop	Tuesday: Indoor PE (<i>this may include gymnastics, dance, apparatus, Core Sills</i>)	Wednesday Outdoor PE (<i>this may include games, athletics, Core Skills</i>)
Foxglove	Thursday: Indoor PE (<i>this may include gymnastics, dance, apparatus, Core Sills</i>)	Wednesday: Outdoor PE (<i>this may include games, athletics, Core Skills</i>)
Bluebell	Monday: Outdoor PE (<i>this may include games, athletics, Core Skills</i>)	Tuesday: Indoor PE (<i>this may include gymnastics, dance, apparatus, Core Sills</i>) Dance Coach this half term.
Primrose	Monday: Outdoor PE (<i>this may include games, athletics, Core Skills</i>)	Tuesday: Indoor PE (<i>this may include gymnastics, dance, apparatus, Core Sills</i>) Dance Coach this half term.

Company Number: 07400940

Working in Partnership with

Elveden Church of England Primary Academy.



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Children will have PE on the days stated above. Some sessions will be field-based, and therefore children will need to have a warm tracksuit and appropriate outdoor PE shoes for these sessions as wherever possible we will try and get outdoors. It is important that children have their PE kit in school at all times just in case the unreliable British weather causes us to change days. Please ensure no earrings are worn on PE days, or that you provide you child with plasters/tape to cover any earrings which cannot be removed.

There are lots of sports clubs on offer this year so do encourage the children to sign up.

Home Learning:

Children in Key Stage One will be set weekly home learning. Children will have home learning books containing the majority of their home learning tasks. The school have provided these in the first instance but the expectation is that children take responsibility for these. If they become lost, parents will incur the cost of their replacement. Children will be set pages from these books on an alternate basis e.g. during one week children may be set some revision of mental maths skills and a phonics based activity, the following week will be a times tables activity and comprehension. Inside the front cover of each of these books will be the page number so that it is clear what activities need to be completed. We will also continue to have weekly spellings to learn which will link directly to what is being taught in class and please log on regularly to Mathletics. Eg:

Home learning:	Handed out:	Expected in:
Weekly spellings, linked to learning in class + Grammar/Punctuation/phonics Task	Friday	Following Wednesdays (Tested Fridays)
Comprehension Task	Friday	Following Wednesday
Mymaths online activity	Friday	Following Wednesday
Maths Homelearning activity + Timestables/number bonds	Friday	Friday (Tested Fridays)

When the children hand in their home learning completed and on time, they receive a stamp which goes towards an end of term treat. This term their treat will be a chocolate milkshake with all the trimmings and a Christmas Biscuit which they will decorate! If your child has difficulty completing their home learning but has had a go please note this on the bottom of the home learning or speak to the class teacher so they still have the opportunity to earn their stamp. We do not expect children to be spending longer than one hour a week on their home learning, but we would like to see all children having a go.

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Reading:



Children should read daily and this must be recorded in their reading diaries. These will be checked daily and children reading every night will earn a raffle ticket for a half termly prize draw. Do encourage you child to love stories, whether it is reading together, sharing stories at bedtime, or reading their school books. Brandon Library is certainly worth a visit too.

This year we are also introducing our Reading Challenge, which encourages children to read their specially selected list of Great Reads. All available to borrow from school – more info of this next week.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. Do look out for letters and information on our Facebook pages. We have lots of exciting things already planned. Do remember that If you have any further questions, please feel free to arrange a time with your child's class teacher to discuss any concerns – generally after school is easier!

With thanks again,

Miss Morley Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Norton, Miss Vercoe, Miss Reeve and Miss Brooks

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