

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the summer break, we hope you have had a restful and fun filled holiday. This term our learning theme is 'What's around me?' During the first week and a half, the children will be engaging in various activities to help us get to know each other better and settle into the school routine.

Reception parents

We are very excited to welcome the children to our lovely school to begin their journey at Pawlett Primary School Academy.

In school, the children will be starting to learn their letter sounds through the phonics programme, 'Read, Write Inc.' They will learn a new sound every day and explore things that begin with each sound. They will learn to blend sounds to read words, with the help of our friendly frog, 'Fred' who only speaks in sounds. We call this 'Fred talk'. We will also focus on learning 'red' words, which are words which cannot be sounded out and must be learnt by sight. There is lots of information about this programme and how you can support your child at home with phonics, on our website. We will be holding a Phonics meeting to give you more information about Phonics and how you can support your child.

The children will be learning through play, so each experience is fun and exciting as well educational. They will be exploring numbers through songs, games and lots of practical experiences; subitising (the ability to look at a small number of objects and instantly recognise how many objects there are without needing to count); learning to count to 100 in 1's and 10's; beginning to recognise numbers to 10 and beyond.; making patterns that repeat themselves and sorting objects.

The children will also be meeting the 'Numberblocks' characters and exploring their journey in the fantastic BBC Maths series.

Year 1 parents

Welcome to Year 1!

The Year 1 children will continue to follow the Read Write Inc. Phonics Programme. They will learn a new sound each day, learn rhymes to help remember them, practise writing the sounds and words and reading 'green' and 'red' words. Green words are phonetically decodable words and red words can only be read by sight.

We will be focusing on reading and writing words and sentences this half term, encouraging children to use capital letters, finger spaces and full stops, and to begin to use other punctuation such as question marks and exclamation marks. We will also be learning about adjectives, verbs and nouns. We will be learning lots of new stories too.

Year 1 children will be learning Mathematical concepts through the 'Numberblocks' Maths series and through NCETM Maths- Teaching for Mastery. We will be practising recognising and writing numbers. We will begin focusing on counting within 100.

Reading at home

Once the children have begun the Read Write Inc. Phonics Programme and are able to blend words, they will bring home a Ditty Sheet, or reading book which they have read in school. They will also have a phonically decodable book related to the same theme as their reading book. From the first week, all children will choose a storybook from our class library for you to share with them. Please ensure that your child looks after the books they bring home and return them on time. We change books weekly in line with when they have finished their group reading book in school. They will have their own reading record, please can you sign this and comment when you have heard them read. Please don't feel that you need to finish every book each night though, reading a few pages each night will give your children the regular practise they need to become good readers. It is really important to make reading fun and spend time sharing stories together and enjoying talking about them. It is a school expectation that children read at least 3 times a week, but hopefully 5. Those that have their reading diary signed 3 or more times in a week will be celebrated as a PPSA Star Reader. If they are a Star Reader more than 3 times during a half term, they are rewarded with a non-uniform day on the last Thursday of every half term.


In the Autumn term, the children will have PE twice a week on a Wednesday and Thursday and Heron Class will change for PE in class. Please encourage your children to dress independently at home to support them with dressing for PE in school. Please ensure they have the correct PE kit and that all items of clothing and the PE bag are labelled. Children will need waterproof clothing and wellies in school, please label these clearly with their name.

As part of our learning theme, we will be looking at where we live. Please could you send a photo of where you live via 'Weduc', Tapestry or a print out, so that we can share these in class (**we need this by 14th September if possible**). We will also be reading a book called 'Window' by Jeannie Baker and would like to collect photos of what we see out of our window. (**We will need these by 6th October**)

Admin staff are busy setting the children up with logins for 'Spelling shed'. Year 1 children's logins will remain the same. Please find time for your children to play these games as they are fun as well as educational.

We are really excited to be back at school and are looking forward to a super year ahead! Please find a copy of the class timetable so that you have an idea of the curriculum areas the children will be covering each day.

Yours Sincerely,



Ruth Baltzer