



“Learning Together, Learning for Life”

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Aspiration

Independence

Resilience

Respect

Welcome to The Bysouth Curriculum Letter **Autumn Term First Half 2023**

Teacher: Miss Wilson

On Tuesdays, Mrs Wittich will teach the class PE. Mrs Wittich will also teach art on Thursdays. Mrs Dear and Mrs Cottenden will also be teaching the class on Fridays during Jackson's and Layton's Forest School sessions.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Bysouth Class! I hope that you and the children have had a well-deserved break over the summer. It has been wonderful to see the children returning to school excited to see their friends. The children have settled in well. I'm looking forward to the year ahead and I know the children are too.

Please find below details of our curriculum for this half term.

We will be actively trying to demonstrate our values of:

Independence by selecting our own resources in and around the classroom to help us learn in the way that suits us best.

Respect by following the daily routines of the class and school, being kind, polite and helpful to one another, and building effective working relationships with each other.

Aspiration by encouraging each other to take risks and challenge ourselves to reach our goals.

Resilience by reflecting on our learning and choices, developing a growth mindset and using our mistakes as learning opportunities.

English: We have begun our writing lessons this year on using the text Farmer Duck. We will be exploring the language in the text, diving deeper into understanding the book and producing many pieces of writing. Children in Year One are also being taught how to correctly form lead in and lead outs for each letter of the alphabet, our handwriting letter formation can be found in your child's home school communication book.

Reading: Children will be reading regularly at school. As an important part of your child's home learning, they **should be reading at home every day**. The children should be reading with or to an adult. When they are reading, please make use of the activities and questions in the covers of the book. By reading the book and working on reading skills, the book will be kept for at least two days. Children in Year One will be keeping their book for a week, this will then be changed on a Monday to the book read in our reading sessions

in school. Comments on their reading and skills should be recorded every day in the Home School Communication book. Comments are used as part of my reading assessment for each child.

The children will also be bringing a library book home with them, the children will be changing their library books every Friday. This will be a book of their choice to enjoy at home. Please remember to return the book in order to be able to choose another one.

Spelling: Spellings will be given to the children every Friday and tested the following Friday.

Spellings will either be focussed on a specific 'rule' or on a set of statutory words. **Weekly spelling words will be sent home in the Home School Communication books.** Please also ensure your child is learning our common exception words, these are words the children need to know by the end of Year 1 and 2. There will be daily phonics and spelling lessons in school taught either by myself or Mrs Wittich.

Maths: This half term we will cover a number of units in Maths this includes understanding place value. Year 1 have begun with understanding how to sort objects and count them efficiently. Year 2 have begun their learning with counting in tens and learning how to be more efficient with their counting.

Times Tables: Children in Year Two will have two, five and ten times tables and related division facts to learn. These will be set and tested every week in our maths lessons. The activities will be set on *TT Rockstars*. This can be accessed online on a laptop or a tablet. Year 1 will be learning their times tables, later on in the year.

Please ensure your child completes the maths homework set each week. These activities will be set weekly in the Home School Communication book. **Parents are expected to sign to show completion of tasks.**

Science: This half term, our Science topic is *Animals including Humans*. We will be learning all about the animal groups and much more.

Topic (History): Our topic is called *Toys through time*. We will be sorting toys, exploring their features, learning about the history of toys, as well as sequencing and ordering toys on a timeline.

Art: We will be learning how to create line, shape and texture by creating still life drawings and paintings using toys as our inspiration and the work of the artist Kathy Hildebrant.

Computing: We will be using Chromebooks in our Computing lessons. We will be learning how to stay safe online as well as exploring Purple Mash in our computing lessons.

PE: On Tuesdays, the children will be working on their fundamental skills with Mrs Wittich. On a Wednesday, the children will be working on their gymnastic skills. **Please ensure your child has the correct clothing and footwear for PE, please also ensure these are labelled.**

If your child has earrings, you will need to either provide medical tape to cover them or if possible come to school on PE days without earrings. This is part of the expected health and safety procedures of primary PE requirements.

PSHE: Our Jigsaw topic this half term is: Being Me in My World. This will focus on being part of a class team; rights, responsibilities and democracy; rewards and consequences;

and group decision-making. Year One will be having their Jigsaw lessons with Miss Wilson and Year Two with Mrs Bryan.

R.E: In RE this year, we will be focusing on two religions which are Christianity and Judaism. Mrs Cottenden will be teaching RE.

Music: In Music, we will be learning all about hip hop. Mrs Dear will be teaching Music.

French: We will be listening and responding to songs in French.

Forest School: Our Forest School sessions will take place every Friday. Please ensure that children come to school dressed in their PE kit. Please also ensure your child has their wellington boots and a waterproof coat (with a hood) in school.

Talk Time: Talk Time is a session in our school, aimed to support the children in building the skills and confidence to talk to an audience. Every term, the children will prepare a 5-minute presentation at home. The presentation can be on any topic of interest to the speaker. The children can use resources such as pictures, objects or Google slides to support their presentation. There will then be a chance for the audience (the rest of the class) to ask questions and then feedback on the presentations they see. I look forward to listening to all of your talk times this year! The dates the children will be taking part in Talk Time this term are:

Monday 2nd October: Mia H
Wednesday 4th October: Frankie
Monday 9th October: Logan
Tuesday 10th October: Nathaniel
Wednesday 11th October: Su
Monday 16th October: Lacey
Tuesday 17th October: Blake
Wednesday 18th October: Max
Monday 6th November: Livvy
Tuesday 7th November: Pearl
Wednesday 8th November: Sebastian
Tuesday 14th November: Ben
Monday 20th November: Mia O
Monday 20th November: Edward
Tuesday 21st November: Elodie
Wednesday 22nd November: Finley A
Monday 27th November: Esme
Tuesday 28th November: Finn
Wednesday 29th November: Leo
Monday 4th December: Scarlett
Tuesday 5th December: Poppy

Reminders:

It is important that your child has a **named water bottle in school every day**. This will need to be taken home at the end of the day, washed and refilled.

All children should have a pair of wellington boots which can be kept in school in the class boot box outside.

Please ensure you name all items of clothing (including footwear) clearly. Any earrings should be small plain studs. Please make sure socks and tights are in line with our expected uniform.

Please ensure your child has their full PE kit in school each week.

Home learning: Please check the Google classroom and stream regularly for announcements and home learning. Instructions around home learning will continue to be explained in the Home School Communication book. This book should be used and tasks completed, signed and commented on five times a week. We will monitor the home learning completed and use your comments to help assess progress.

There will be a chance to discuss any questions you might have on Monday 11th September at 2:50pm in Bysouth classroom. You will also be able to access the meeting via Google Meet using your child's G Suite account if you can't make it in person.

If you need to contact me at all, please write a message in the Home School Communication book, arrange a meeting via the office, or send an email to a.wilson@reed.herts.sch.uk. Of course, I will also be on the playground each morning and afternoon. Please note that emails may not get a response straight away, and any emails sent in the evenings and over a weekend/holiday may not be answered until the next school day.

If you wish to come into class after school to look at your child's learning, then please feel free to email me or talk to me in person. Please let me know beforehand due to after school commitments.

Thank you for your continued support. I am looking forward to an exciting year!

Yours sincerely,
Miss Wilson

*Bysouth Class Teacher
Forest School Teacher*