



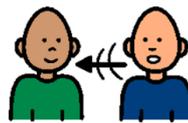
Interim Executive Headteacher: Helen Bruckdorfer BA

Wednesday, 15 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a fantastic start to the new academic year at Brecknock over the past few days, with children settling happily into their new classes and returning to good learning habits. Our priority remains responding to the loss of learning for all children during the lockdowns. Whilst continuing to offer a broad and progressive curriculum, we will keep focusing **on filling the gaps in children's learning and helping them to catch up**. We hope you were able to attend our virtual **Meet the Team** meetings with class teachers this week. This letter gives further important and detailed information regarding the year ahead and this term's learning.

Time to talk; time to change



This year, Brecknock will be focusing on improving their oracy skills (speaking, listening and vocabulary) to support their learning across the curriculum. We will be promoting the right to be heard, return to the Brecknock values and learn about local and global issues that matter to us. Through our whole school theme: '**A Time to Talk; A Time Change**' we will learn about the **17 Sustainable Development Goals** which aim to ensure a quality education for all, fight inequalities and fix climate change. You will be updated regularly through the newsletter, website and school **Twitter feed @BrecknockSchool**.

Rights Respecting Children

As a **Gold Rights Respecting school**, we consistently focus on the rights of the child and how these help us to develop an understanding of respect and empathy for others. At the start of this term, every class has created their class charter, underpinned by the Brecknock school values.



In class, the children are praised for excellent work, participation and following the class charter and whole school values. Children are rewarded with stickers linked to the school value they have demonstrated. These values are celebrated during our weekly special achievement assemblies.

Learning in Year 2

Please reference the **curriculum leaflet** that gives you an overview of the learning that will be taking place this term in your child's year group. Through our Great Fire of London topic the children will be learning about how the fire happened, why it spread so quickly and its impact on London's buildings and residents.

All classes will use **Brecknock Timelines** and **Knowledge Mats** to support children to learn, remember and recall key facts.

Trips

We are delighted to be able to plan and take children on a range of educational trips once again. All trips will be risk assessed and following current guidelines. **We will send you more details shortly!**

Attendance and Punctuality

We understand that reaching 100% daily attendance is challenging at this time, we will be celebrating good attendance and time-keeping behaviour in our weekly star of the week assemblies. **We encourage you to monitor your child's attendance using Parent Hub to ensure their attendance remains excellent. Please ensure you download the Parent Hub App to access your child's profile.**

We send the majority of the schools communications via email, including the newsletter which is sent every Thursday and uploaded to the school website. Letters for trips, dinner money and anything in relation to finance is sent via your ParentPay account. We also send short messages that we need to communicate with you quickly through the Parent Hub app.

The school **gates open at 8:50am** in order for lessons to **start at 9.00am**. **Please ensure you follow the one way systems in place to allow for social distancing.**

Home Learning

Homework	<p>Homework at Brecknock will be given through Google Classroom. Children have been set up in their new Google Classrooms for 2021-22 and homework will be set online. Children will be re-issued their login details shortly at school.</p> <p>This year, we will be incorporating new online learning strategies, such as quizzes, into the home learning. These will help to embed previously taught core skills and to support children to retain knowledge from across the curriculum.</p> <p>Homework books are available if children prefer to do their homework in this way but we would encourage the use of Google Classroom.</p>
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In KS1 the children will be learning poems and songs regularly as this will help develop their oracy skills. We will share these with you as your child may enjoy performing them for you.

We also expect children to read every day at home and to fill out their Reading Records.

Reading

Parental and guardian support is hugely important for developing reading skills, confidence and understanding. Even if children are independent readers, we still encourage parents to read with them or listen to them and discuss the books they are reading.

In Year 1 and 2 children need to **read at home for around 10 minutes a day**. To help the teachers understand what and how often children are reading, we ask that they, or you, complete their reading record at least twice a week with a simple comment such as 'I/She enjoyed this book because...' 'It was funny when...'.

Children's reading records and current reading book should still be brought to school every day as they are sometimes used, and referred to, in lessons.

Phonics

Phonics and spelling lessons take place daily in Year 1 and 2 and form the foundations for learning to read and write. Your child will have received a Sound Booklet last year and will soon receive a new booklet appropriate to the phase of Letters and Sounds they are learning. The books are an opportunity for parents and carers to practise reading with their child and they are also a useful communication tool between school and home, helping you to understand what your child is working on now and what their next steps will be.

We recommend that you use the book for around **5 minutes per day**. It can be helpful to set a timer or a target, such as a number of pages, for your child so that they have an achievable goal. When you feel that your child confidently knows all of the sounds and tricky words in the book, please return to the class teacher. They will then celebrate this with your child and assign the next phase booklet.

Fluency in maths

+	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
0	0+0	0+1	0+2	0+3	0+4	0+5	0+6	0+7	0+8	0+9	0+10
1	1+0	1+1	1+2	1+3	1+4	1+5	1+6	1+7	1+8	1+9	1+10
2	2+0	2+1	2+2	2+3	2+4	2+5	2+6	2+7	2+8	2+9	2+10
3	3+0	3+1	3+2	3+3	3+4	3+5	3+6	3+7	3+8	3+9	3+10
4	4+0	4+1	4+2	4+3	4+4	4+5	4+6	4+7	4+8	4+9	4+10
5	5+0	5+1	5+2	5+3	5+4	5+5	5+6	5+7	5+8	5+9	5+10
6	6+0	6+1	6+2	6+3	6+4	6+5	6+6	6+7	6+8	6+9	6+10
7	7+0	7+1	7+2	7+3	7+4	7+5	7+6	7+7	7+8	7+9	7+10
8	8+0	8+1	8+2	8+3	8+4	8+5	8+6	8+7	8+8	8+9	8+10
9	9+0	9+1	9+2	9+3	9+4	9+5	9+6	9+7	9+8	9+9	9+10
10	10+0	10+1	10+2	10+3	10+4	10+5	10+6	10+7	10+8	10+9	10+10

Knowing number facts is an important tool to enable your child to feel confident in maths. **Revising number facts, including counting in twos, fives and tens**, is an easy way to support your child's progress in mathematics and we encourage children to revise them regularly.

Learning number bonds to ten, twenty and one hundred fluently (e.g. 9+1=10, 5+5=10) and starting to tell the time are key skills for Key Stage 1. Through their weekly homework, children will be given strategies and activities to support them. Children will also be encouraged to **login into online maths resources** such as 'Times Table Rockstars', 'My Maths' or 'Doodle Maths'. Their **login details for specific website resources will be sent home**.

New words



Direct vocabulary teaching takes place every day. On a Friday, children choose one of their new words to wear on a sticker. We encourage you to speak to your child about their chosen word each week as this will help them to deepen their understanding of the word and to develop their oracy skills!

Homework, reading books and reading records should be kept in a book bag as these are used/referred to regularly in class.

PE

PE will take place every **Monday and Wednesday**. Children **will not be changing for PE** so please ensure they wear appropriate clothes for physical activity on these days, including trainers. Please note, we have and will **continue to do a Daily Mile**, so it is important that children wear appropriate footwear daily.

We are available at pickup to discuss any queries at the end of each school day.

Kind regards,

Adam and Angie