



**Brecknock Primary School**

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a brilliant start to the new academic year at Brecknock, with children settling quickly into their new classes, developing as incredibly active learners. Thank you to all who attended our **Meet the Team** meetings with new class teachers, we hope this gave you a sense of the coming year. This letter gives further important and detailed information regarding the year ahead and this term's learning. Please keep an eye out for **parent workshops which will be running throughout the year**. Our weekly newsletter, sent on a Thursday, will keep you updated of all that is happening in the school. Please also follow us on [@BrecknockSchool](https://twitter.com/BrecknockSchool)

### Together, Our Future Starts Here

**This year, Torriano and Brecknock schools** will be exploring the whole school and federation theme **Together, The Future Starts Here**. We are excited to embark on a deeper partnership, with each other, with our children, parents and community, increasing opportunities for everyone to learn together.



We will enrich our learning and curriculum with a focus on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) quality education, reduced inequalities, affordable and clean energy. In the Autumn Term we will mark key events; Global Goals Week, Ada Lovelace Day, Black History Season and Anti-bullying Week.

Please see the rest of the letter below and curriculum leaflet, detailing the core and wider curriculum for children. 'This week in Nursery' letters are also being sent out to support children's learning. This information will also be available shortly on the school website.

## 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 BRIGHT school values.



In class, the children are praised for excellent work, participation and following the class charter and whole school values. Our behaviour system is called '1,2,3 Magic', which we believe complements our ethos. 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 Nursery

The **attached curriculum leaflet** gives you an overview of the learning that will be taking place this term in your child's year group. Through our 'Camden Road Heroes' topic the children will be learning about the special people at home and in school who help us. We invite our families in to visit us and to talk about how they are special to us.

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

## 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. This term we are excited about our local area walk.



## Attendance and Punctuality

Ted and Earl will be on the lookout for good attendance and prompt school arrival this term. 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, virtual special achievement assemblies. We encourage you to monitor your child's attendance using Parent Hub to ensure their attendance remains excellent. 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.

## Home Learning

<p><b>Home Learning</b></p> 	<p>Please ensure your child comes to school every day with their zippy bag; school has supplied one for your child. Please do read and sign the reading journal – your class teacher will have added a key question about the picture story book your child has selected to take home. You can change the picture story book as often as required and we do encourage this!</p> <p>To support their phonics learning, your child will be provided with Foundation Stage phonics resources and activities. Please do enjoy these at home.</p> <p>In EYFS 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. <b>You can find out about your child’s learning at school via the Tapestry online journal.</b> Look out for the ‘This week in Nursery letter we will post each Friday on Tapestry. This highlights the learning that will take place the following week. It is in Tapestry that we share ideas on how to support learning from home.</p>
<p><b>Home Reading</b></p> 	<p><b>Parental and guardian support</b> 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.</p> <p>Children need to <b>read at home for at least 10 minutes a day</b> and complete a short daily reflection (<i>‘I enjoyed this book because...’</i> <i>‘It was funny when...’</i> or alternatively an adult can write the comment for them) in their reading records.</p> <p>When reading stories with your child, encourage your child to look at the front cover of a book. Ask them questions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do they think the book will be about?</li> <li>• Why do they think this?</li> <li>• Encourage your child to talk about the pictures in the story book.</li> <li>• Who is in the story?</li> <li>• What is happening?</li> <li>• Where is it happening?</li> </ul> <p>This will help your child answer ‘who, what and where’ questions supporting the development of their comprehension skills. You can challenge your child further by asking them ‘why’ and ‘how’ questions.</p> <p>Children's reading records and current reading book should be brought to school every day as they are sometimes used, and referred to, in lessons.</p>
<p><b>Phonics</b></p> 	<p>At Brecknock we teach children to read through systematic synthetic phonics programme ‘Little Wandle’. Phonics lessons take place daily in Nursery, with a focus on hearing different sounds and being able to talk about them. Look out for information about parent workshops to inform you about phonics.</p> <p>Children will take a home a reading for pleasure book from the book corner, which families can read to, and with, their children for enjoyment.</p>
<p><b>Fluency in maths</b></p>	<p>Knowing <b>number facts</b> is an important tool to enable your child to feel confident in maths.</p>

	<p>Talk about number with your child and immerse them in opportunities to practise counting every day. We will share home learning activities via Tapestry.</p>
<p><b>New words</b></p> 	<p><b>Direct vocabulary teaching takes place every day.</b> 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!</p>

Home Learning books, reading books and reading records should be kept in the zippy bag as these are used/referred to regularly in class.

## PE

PE will take place every 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 look forward to an exciting year and are available at pickup to discuss any queries at the end of each school day.

Kind regards,

Hannah