

**Spring Term 1 Newsletter**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I am looking forward to the exciting work we have got planned this half term.

It is always a pleasure to hear your children read, they are enjoying our guided reading sessions which allows the children to discuss a book and develop their comprehension skills. We do a daily phonics session which teaches the children the skills of learning to read. I would like to thank you for your continued support with reading as this is such a vital skill for your children to learn. Please continue to read **at least** 4 times every week at home and remember to sign the reading diary. Reading folders need to be in school every day. If your child reads at home more than 4 times in the week, they receive a certificate in our Monday assembly.

We are working hard to develop our writing skills and will be continuing to practise our formation regularly in order to master the orientation, correct size and position on the line. We will be reading the book ‘King of the woods’ by David Day and writing our own stories set in the woods. We will also be writing an information text about plants and trees in our local environment.

In Maths we are continuing to work on addition and subtraction to 20. We will also be learning about shape, patterns, length and height. Maths activities will continue to have a strong practical element. Children are encouraged to apply the skills they learn and to challenge themselves within lessons. The children continue to have a maths session after lunch to develop their skills and fluency.

Our topic is ‘The Enchanted Woodland.’ We will be reading a range of stories around this theme. If your child has a book or a poem that fits in with this theme and would like to bring it in to share with the class they are more than welcome to. Our science work will be about plants and animals. I will be starting a ‘nature table’ and contributions are encouraged. It is always good to take the time to be curious about the world we live in. We will be attempting to plant and grow a few things of our own. During our computing sessions we will be learning about photography and taking pictures of plants and trees.

We will continue to have PE on a Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Please make sure a full PE kit is in school for every lesson. Some sessions may take place outside so appropriate kit will be necessary. It needs to be labelled clearly to avoid any mix up. Earrings should be removed or they can be covered with tape.

This half term the children will be doing **an hour’s outdoor learning activity a week** with Miss Potter and Miss Godwin on a Tuesday afternoon. Please could you provide your children with a change of warm clothes and boots/shoes that you don't mind getting muddy.

As the weather is very cold at the moment and we do go outdoors, please provide a warm coat, hat and gloves every day.

The school website and Twitter are ways to see some of the work that is happening in school. Follow us on Twitter at **@Firbeck** Primary.

Finally, if you have any queries please come and see me. I am always happy to help.

Thank you for all your support,

Miss Yeoman