Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a lovely February break either away or at home. I have been busy setting up the classroom for another exciting term at Bibury School and I know the children will enjoy all the opportunities we have on offer this term. We have two class trips this term, the first to Forest School in week 2 and a whole school visit to Winchester Science Museum in week 3. More information on these trips will follow shortly. We also have three church services that you are welcome to attend, Ash Wednesday, Mothering Sunday and our end of term Easter Service – please look out for details of these in the weekly newsletter. Annual School reports will be issued at the end of this term in order to keep you updated with your child’s progress before the SATs testing for Year 2 begins in May and the phonics assessments and Early Years assessments are made for Year 1 and EYFS respectively. Please ensure you read the requirements for homework at the end of this letter as work at home is critical to your child’s progress in Key Stage One and Early Years.

**Early Years Programme of Study this term :**

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| English | We will be building our stamina for writing by writing reports, recounts, instructions and poetry. We will be concentrating on building independence with spelling and sentence construction as well as the use of capital letters and full stops. |
| Phonics | We will continue with Phase 3 letters and sounds this term, please continue to practise these with your child ( they were added to book bags last term) |
| Handwriting | We will be focusing on correct letter formation and pencil grip this term – each child is assessed and given activities matched to their abilities |
| Maths | We will be learning to double and share quantities. We will also consolidate our understanding of addition and subtraction using number lines. Later in the term we will be learning how to tell the time to the nearest hour. We will also be sequencing days of the week and months of the year. |
| Understanding the World | We will be looking at seasonal changes and noticing the signs of spring this term. We will also be looking at what animals need to survive as part of our Forest School class trip.  EYFS will join the rest of the class for part of their RE lessons this term. |
| Expressive Art and Design | As well as creating their own pirate treasure maps, cutlasses, treasure islands and treasure chests, the children will be joining the rest of the class learning how to tie-dye cloth and weave a design on card looms. The children in EYFS will join the rest of the class for music lessons too where they will be learning how to read symbols in order to play instruments. |
| Personal, Social and Emotional Development | EYFS will join the rest of the class to explore relationships within their families and with their friends |
| PE | Mr Peters will be teaching multi-skills and tag rugby |
| French | Madame Campbell will be continuing her focus on vocabulary |
| RE | Why does Easter matter to Christians ? |

**Key Stage 1 Program of Study this term :**

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| English | We will be writing 5 part narrative stories this term based on the Katie Morag series of books. We will also be learning how to write instructions for the care of mythical creatures as well as writing poetry inspired by The Sound Collector by Roger McGogh. We will be embedding the use of exclamation marks for commands and exclamation marks as well as looking at the use of similes and relative clauses in our writing. |
| Reading | We will be conducting whole class guided reading for Years 1 and 2 several times a week this term. Together we will read extracts from quality, challenging texts and learn how to answer questions that ask children to infer information, predict endings and understand the meaning of new vocabulary.  Children who are not yet fluent readers will be targeted for extra reading practice with our TA’s. Daily practice reading aloud at home is a requirement for all children in Acorns in order to achieve the necessary level of fluency of 90 words a minute needed for Year 2. |
| Maths – Year 1 | We will be focusing upon finding halves and quarters of shapes and quantities in the first two weeks of term. We will then move on to understanding multiplication and division using equipment and pictorial representations. We will end the term with learning about time – telling the time to the nearest half an hour before finally completing our work on capacity and volume in the last week of term. |
| Maths – Year 2 | Will be focusing on fractions of shape and quantity – we will be exploring halves, quarters and thirds before finding equivalent fractions. Following this we will be re-capping our work on multiplication and division looking for patterns in the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We will move on to some time work later in the term learning how to tell the time to the nearest 5 minutes. In the last week of term we will be problem solving using capacity and volume. |
| Science | Our topic Treasure Island will focus upon what animals and humans need to survive. This objective will also be covered in our Forest School whole class trip. We will be looking at carnivores, herbivores and omnivores this term as well as looking closely at the structures in fish. The children will be conducting their own practical science experiments making windproof and waterproof structures as well as exploring the properties of dry ice, slime and bouncing balls during our whole class science trip. |
| Topic | Our topic this term ‘ Our Island Home’ has a geography focus. We will be exploring the UK and identifying it’s four nations and capitals. We will also learning the names of all the world’s continents and oceans. Later in the term we will be making our own papier mache model island and learning how we can depict this using simple mapping techniques. |
| Art | We will be focusing on textiles this term. In the first few weeks of term we will be learning how to dye cloth and make tie-dye t-shirts. Later in the term we will be learning how to weave a seascape using card looms and carefully chosen wool colours. |
| Music | Mrs Davies will be teaching the children symbol notation in order to play tuned instruments this term |
| Computing | We will be developing our keyboard and typing skills this term using Purple Mash |
| RE | Why does Easter matter to Christians ? |
| French | We will be continuing our work on vocabulary |
| PSHE | Mrs Godwin will be discussing family relationships and how to build positive friendships this term |
| PE | Multi-skills and tag rugby |

**Homework**

**Every child in Acorns is provided with the following homework**

* Hear your child read **at least 4 times a week** – please record in the yellow reading book. Books are checked daily and there are plenty of books available for children to read a book a night. **Practise at least 4 times a week from EYFS to Year 2 is absolutely critical for children to achieve the very high standards of fluency now expected to pass the Year 2 SATs in reading which have a reading age of 8.5 years.** Certificates were given out to the two children who read at least 4 times a week last term in Acorns Class. Please do everything you can to ensure your child achieves this standard this term,
* Complete Maths Passport record sheets – dated each week for each objective practised. Several children completed at least one passport level last term – keep up the good work.
* Year 2 will have extra homework this term to prepare them for Year 2 SATS
* Year 1 will receive spelling homework provided they are successfully completing their reading and maths homework consistently each week