

# Broomhill First School/



## Welcome to the Big Owls!

Well done to all of the children for settling into our new class so well. They have been getting used to lots of new routines and the Big Owls have all been superstars!

### Our learning so far...

For the first part of our term, we started with some familiar topics to help children settle. We have done lots of talking about 'ourselves' - what each child likes and dislikes, what they are good at and what they look like. The Big Owls were fantastic artists in our portrait studio! We have also talked about our families and the people we love. We carefully thought about how our families are similar and different too. Thank you to those who have already sent in some family photographs. It is lovely for the children to have some familiar faces to look at in our classroom. For anyone with photographs still to send in, please upload them to Tapestry for me to print or send a printed photo into school with your child.

### Tapestry

Thank you to all parents who regularly use their Tapestry account to communicate with us, especially as we cannot operate our open door policy at the moment.



**Please check that you have access to your Tapestry account.**

If you have any problems please let me know. It is important that you check it regularly as some newsletters and updates will be shared on there as well as snippets of your child's learning in school.

Feel free to upload pictures and notes from home to show us what your child is doing at home. I love to see them and it helps with my assessments too.

### Homework

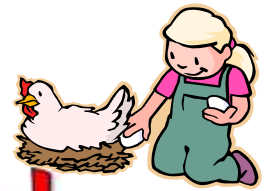
Over the next few weeks I will be starting to send home some homework tasks. These will be short tasks to complement or consolidate your child's learning in school. In the 'Welcome Pack', I have sent out a booklet for reading, writing, phonics and maths, which describes some of these tasks in more detail. The main homework items to look out for initially will be:

- **Reading books** - These may contain only pictures at first or simple word patterns. Please read regularly with your child and make a note in their reading record.
- **Phonics sound books** - As we start to learn more letter sounds, children will bring them home in a 'sound book'. Regular practise at recognising each letter sound will be a huge benefit. Even if your child knows the letter, please use each page to record objects with that initial sound and to practise the correct letter formation using the rhymes.
- **'Talking Time' activities** - These will be sent home over the weekend to encourage children to talk about the topic activities they are doing in school. Please record any comments in the book.

**Please make sure your child has their book bag in school every day so we can change reading books and add homework where needed.**



Our topic for October is



# Fun on the Farm!

## Literacy, Language & Communication

Children will learn through a range of farmyard stories such as Farmer Duck and Farmyard Hullabaloo. They will retell the story of the Little Red Hen with puppets and props to encourage story language. Children will begin to use their knowledge of phonics to write simple words. There will be lots of opportunities for mark making in our Farm Shop as children write shopping lists and receipts.

## Mathematics

Children will learn number rhymes with a farming theme as they count and order numbers. They will recognise numerals and practise number formation as they write some price tags for items in the Farm Shop. They will begin to do some simple addition and subtraction as they help the farmer solve lots of problems.



## Understanding the World

Children will gain knowledge about life on a farm. They will identify farm animals and their babies. They will learn how to care for animals and about other jobs on the farm. Children will learn about the products we can get from each animal. For example milk comes from cows and helps us to make cheese, ice cream and milkshakes! They will learn about growing vegetables and we will celebrate harvest time.

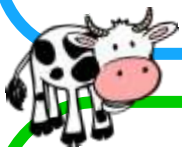
## Physical Development

Children will engage in lots of outdoor provision to encourage gross motor skills. They will ride bikes and trikes around the track on our playground. We will be taking part in some parachute games in PE lessons to promote listening skills and teamwork. Children will develop their fine motor skills through activities such as play dough as they help the Little Red Hen in her bakery.

**Please ensure your child comes into school dressed in their PE kit every Friday.**

PE kit is our uniform on a Friday so please make sure it adheres to our school kit:

- Black, navy or royal blue shorts/ joggers/ leggings
- A plain or school white t-shirt
- Usual school jumper/cardigan
- Trainers



## Expressive Arts and Design

Role play areas indoors and outdoors will allow children to use their imagination as they play. They will sell vegetables at the farm shop, feed the animals at the farm yard and work at the tractor repair centre. Children will create farm animals using a range of resources and they will explore printing effects as they paint with real vegetables. They will take part in music tasks where they will explore songs and rhymes with a farming theme. They will be creative in making up new verses and actions.



## Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Children will continue to follow our new routines, as they work together to keep a happy classroom. They will care for their friends and will learn about caring for farm animals. They will engage in lots of play activities with a partner or group as they develop friendships in the class. The Big Owls will also help the younger Little Owls at shared learning times.

## Important Info

Thank you for your patience during our building works, especially if there has been some noise at drop off/pick up times. The children have enjoyed watching the builders at work and are even copying them by building their own creations in our outdoor construction area! The new high-level windows have been fitted in our classroom and there is only a little more work to do. Once all work is completed around the school, the scaffolding will be removed and we can get our full playground back!

### Name Writing

Please help your child to practise writing their name using their name card in the 'Welcome Pack'. This will encourage the correct letter formation. Use a capital letter only for their initial letter and lowercase for the rest.

### Water Bottles

Please send your child into school with a named water bottle. They will be returned at the end of each day so they can be washed and filled with fresh water.

### Junk Boxes

The children are enjoying making junk models. If you have any items for our junk model bin, please send them in on a Friday so they can be quarantined over the weekend before the children use them the following week. Small boxes, tubes or scraps of fabric are really useful.

### Wellies

As we encourage activities outside in all weathers, it would be great if your child had a pair of wellies in school. Please let us know if you would like them returned at the end of the day or for the weekend. Alternatively, you can leave a pair in school all of the time at your child's peg.



Remember to return library books every Friday!

### Gift Pack

Please enjoy a free book from the Book Trust scheme. This is a book to keep at home and read together with your child to help promote a love of reading.

### Lunch

Children in Reception are entitled to receive Universal Free School Meals regardless of individual financial circumstances. However, if you are entitled to **income related free school meals**, please apply for this as greater benefits will be received for your child, yourself and our school. Please contact the school office or the Free School Meals Team at Northumberland County Council on 01670 623592 or email [childrensservices@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:childrensservices@northumberland.gov.uk) Having a school lunch provides excellent learning opportunities for trying new foods, using cutlery and developing table manners. However, should you prefer to provide a healthy packed lunch instead, then please let us know.

Thank you very much for reading this information letter.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Mrs Haves

