



# Bittern News

Autumn 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term 2018

Brundall School- Be extraordinary.

Our topic for this half term is: Toys

We hope you will find the following information helpful in supporting your child's learning at home.

## HOME LEARNING

### Reading

Reading with your child at home is still extremely important and we would encourage you to do this daily where possible. This can be through shared reading, reading aloud or with your child reading to you.

### Why is Reading so important?

*"Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures."*

*"In fact, reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background."* –Pearson, 2018

### Spelling

Your child will have a spelling book that they will bring home every week which will contain a set of spellings based on a spelling rule or a phonetic sound. Please help them practice these spellings; this can be done verbally or can be written down. Your child does not necessarily need to record anything in their books. During the following week, we will then check these spellings.

### Maths

Your child may also come home with a sheet of mixed maths calculations entitled 'Propeller Maths'. This is a sheet they complete independently as one of their activities during Guided Reading when they aren't working with a teacher or teaching assistant. The sheet is designed to go through many of the calculations that are specific to your child's year group. This is an optional home learning activity; you may like to go through some of the questions with your child but there is no emphasis for them to return it to school. For your information, I have attached a blank sheet to the newsletter.

### Other Home Learning Tasks

Your child will also bring home other home learning tasks from time to time. As a school, we will be continuing to have a pupil of the day. Once termly, your child will bring home a sheet of compliments from the teacher, from their friends and from themselves. Please do take time to read these with your child and to then take the time to write your own compliment from someone in the family. When these are returned to school, they are then shared with the class which reinforces all the compliments given and provides a strong link between school and home.

## OUR TOPIC – TOYS

This term, we will be exploring the topic of Toys in many exciting ways. In English, we will be using the film Toy Story as a stimulus for drama and writing. We will be also looking at instructions for how to play simple games and then writing our own.

Our Science learning will be based around looking at the different materials that toys are made from and the different properties that these materials possess. Possible enquiry questions may be *What are the advantages/disadvantages of using plastic to make toys?* and *Are different materials used for indoor and outdoor toys?* We will then move on to look at moving toys and discuss forces, speed and friction.

Through Art and Design, we will be looking at moving toys and puppets, and will design their own, considering colour, theme and audience of the puppets.

In History, the children will look at how Toys have changed over time and consider why these changes have happened. They will also consider what toys might be like in the future and how these would differ from Toys today.

## Other information

P.E lessons will be held on Monday and Thursday. During the Winter months we still go outside for P.E lessons so children will need very warm tracksuits and trainers rather than plimsolls and a waterproof available in case of a rain shower.

Please could you also ensure ALL clothing, including PE and Games kit is named. This makes it easier at the end of each day to return clothing to its owner.

As we will be doing lots creative work throughout the year, we would like every child to have an old adult shirt to wear as an art coverall.

## Help Needed!

We are also looking for any parents or relatives who are available to hear children read. If you have a spare hour during the week and would be available, please speak to me at drop off or pick up time.

As part of our History topic, we would like a grandparent to come in to talk about toys they had when they were younger. Again, please speak to me if you know someone who would be willing to come in!

If you have any other questions, please speak to one of the Bittern teaching team at drop off or pick up time, or if you require a longer meeting, appointments can be made through the office.

Many thanks  
The Bittern Teaching Team

