



# John Blow Primary School

Head Teacher: Mr Ben Carver

## Year 1 – Autumn Term Newsletter

### Autumn Term- Once Upon a Time

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope that you have all had a lovely break over the summer and the children are refreshed and ready for an exciting year in Year 1! I am really looking forward to the year ahead- after spending time with the children during transition days, they have shown such enthusiasm, kindness and curiosity, and I can already see what a fantastic year this is going to be.

This term, we will be focusing on our overarching topic 'Once Upon a Time'. This will feed into many areas of the curriculum as we investigate different settings and compare them to where we live and places we have visited. We will also begin to explore the wider curriculum by exploring the seasons and weather patterns in the UK.

In Maths, we will begin by exploring place value within 10, recognising numbers as words, counting forwards and backwards and comparing numbers. We will also be learning about addition and subtraction within 10.

PE days will be **Mondays** and **Fridays**. Please ensure that children come to school in their PE kits on these days, with long hair tied back and earrings removed (or tape can be provided). Please ensure that our school PE kit consists of black shorts/jogging bottoms, a red t-shirt and a plain black/red hoodie.

Please ensure that your child brings a named water bottle to school each day. If possible, it is really helpful to limit bringing belongings from home to avoid things getting lost or broken.

Finally, I will be sending home a White Rose maths booklet which will consolidate the children's learning in lessons. It is really important that children continue to read regularly at home. Excitingly, we are starting a new Phonics scheme; more information on this will be shared in the coming weeks. As a result of this new scheme, children will bring home a reading book matched to their phonic knowledge for them to read, and they will also choose a reading for pleasure book which can be shared at home with an adult reading this to them. These books will be changed weekly, on a Wednesday. This is so the children foster a love of reading, which is so important!

Home learning will be shared with the children on a Friday; completed work needs to be handed in by Wednesday of the following week; the expectation is that children do not spend longer than 30 minutes on each activity; if home learning is taking longer than this, please let me know and I will make any adaptations required.

### Getting to know me...

I have had the privilege of teaching Year 1 at John Blow for the last 10 years. I am dedicated and passionate about my job, and I love seeing children make progress and become independent learners. The proud smiles when a child knows they have made an achievement always makes my day!

I enjoy most creative pursuits and really enjoy crafting (you may find evidence of this around my classroom). I love going to the theatre, especially musicals! For me, there is nothing better than watching live music.

Outside of school, I love spending time with my family and friends, particularly going for long walks in the countryside and going to Pilates. To relax I will usually be found either reading, listening to music, pottering around the garden or sewing.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to get in touch by emailing the office or speaking to me after school.

I am really looking forward to working with you all and can't wait for our new learning to begin!

Many thanks

Miss Ball