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**Bulmer Class Newsletter**

5th January 2016

Phonics

The Reception children will now be moving onto Phase 3 of the Letters and Sounds programme. We are now looking at diagraphs – two letters which make one sound e.g. ch as in chip. These are in the children’s Sounds books and we would appreciate it if you could keep helping your child to practise these on a regular basis. New key ring words will also be coming out – these may now be put on new rings. These will be high frequency words and tricky words (words that cannot be sounded out).

Year 1 children will continue to revisit phonemes (sounds) already learnt and will be concentrating on the different ways we write the same sounds e.g. ‘ai’ and ‘ay’. In May/June Year 1 children will have to undergo the statutory phonics screening check so we will also be starting to practise for this. Year 1 children should also be learning their tricky words and lists will be sent home as part of their homework.

Class Topic

Our whole school topic this half term is journeys and Around the World. In Bulmer Class we will be looking at the differences between the countryside and towns, learning about the four countries that make up Great Britain, looking at our capital city and comparing where we live to a city in Brazil. In maths we will be concentrating on money and addition and subtraction. English/Literacy will be focused on instructions, fantasy settings and imaginary worlds.

Welcome

Today we welcome four new members of staff to Bulmer Class. Mrs Statham and Mrs Borthwick will be working in the mornings and Mrs Fenwick-Cross and Mrs Fairclough in the afternoon.

Happy New Year!

Please do not hesitate to come and see me should you have any questions or queries.

Mrs Holdsworth

Water Bottles

Please could you ensure that your child has their own named water bottle in school each day. We encourage the children to drink during the day and all have a drink together at snack time each day. Once again could we please ask that **only water** be supplied in the children’s water bottles – **no squash** unless for medical reasons.