

Dear parents and carers,

I look forward to welcoming you back after the Christmas break. I hope both you and your child have had a well-deserved rest and are ready for the term ahead.

This term is one of my favourites! Not only are the days getting brighter and signs of spring appearing, our driver project is 'Bright Lights, Big City'. In this project we will be exploring our magnificent capital city, some of its many landmarks, things typically associated with London and a significant event from over 300 years ago that shaped the city we know today. Alongside this, we will also explore other companion projects that connect learning across different subjects to help build a depth of knowledge and understanding.

On our class page you can find our spring term topic web which details all the projects and learning focuses that will be taking place this term. We are super excited to organise and share some wonderful experiences with the class to make their learning as fun, enjoyable and memorable as can be.

Alongside our class information, you will find the #mylearning tab. Here, you will see this term's activity grid, along with the accompanying English and Maths sheets for your child to complete at home with you. You may notice that these resources look slightly different, as we have aligned the home activities to match the sequence of learning being covered at school.

For English the children will now have a reading comprehension to complete. Please ensure you select the comprehension that matches your child's phonics phase, which can be found on the back of their reading book. If you have any difficulties identifying the correct comprehension, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

For Maths each sheet is divided into three ability-based levels. Your child only needs to complete one level, which may vary depending on the concept being explored. If you are unsure which sheet is most suitable for your child, please feel free to contact me for guidance.

We look forward to seeing the children's work and will proudly display any wow pieces in the classroom and on the Superstar Gallery for all to see on the website. You can place your child's work into a book or folder for them to bring into class, or send any photos/videos of work to the admin email who will then forward them onto me. Points for completed activities will be collected at the end of term and any child who reaches the required points will be rewarded for their hard work and efforts.

It is important to note that reading with your child at least 5 times a week, as well as completing both the English and Maths sheets is compulsory. Although your child is taught these key skills at school, you can have a huge impact on their learning journey by continuing their practice at home. Therefore, any children not completing them will be spending time within school to catch up.

Reading diaries and books need to be in your child's book bags every day as we will be reading frequently throughout the week. On Thursdays we will keep your child's reading diary and books, as this provides us with time to change them over, ready to be sent home with them again on Friday.

Our PE days are Tuesday (indoor) and Thursday (outdoor). The children are expected to arrive at school in full school PE kit with any earrings removed. Please be mindful that if your child has an after-school club that requires them to wear a PE kit on a day other than Tuesday or Thursday you will need to send one in with them.

All that leaves me to say is if you have any queries, concerns or just want to chat please either email admin@bentley-st-pauls.essex.sch.uk who will be happy to pass on your message, call the office or catch me on the gate at the end of the day, where I will be more than happy to help in whichever possible.

Thank you for your ongoing support -

The Year 1 Team - Miss Buckingham, Miss Conway and Mrs Williams