

# Year Group Newsletters Autumn 1

Welcome back to a brand new year at Beaver Road! We hope you have all had a wonderful break and we are looking forward to diving into our new learning journey challenges for the term.

**Year 1:** What do I know about the UK and where I live in Didsbury?

**Year 2:** What Habitats do Animals prefer to live in?

**Year 3:** 'What causes volcanoes, earthquakes and mountains?'

**Year 4:** What did the Ancient Greeks bring to the world?

**Year 5:** How is a river formed?

**Year 6:** What impact did WWI and WWII have on people?

## Helpful Reminders:

- Please ensure you label your child's coat, uniform and PE kits.
- Children should bring in a named water bottle with them daily.
- Read with your child for 10-15 minutes daily.
- If you would like to volunteer with us to read with children in school, please email [volunteers@brps.net](mailto:volunteers@brps.net) for more information.



# Year 1

## Diary Dates:

Fog lane park seasons trip- TBC

**Friday 1st November: School Closed for INSET Day**

## Key Information:

The year 1 children will be doing PE every Tuesday and Wednesday.

It is essential children bring in the correct PE kit. Please ensure your child keeps their PE kits in school during the week (Monday to Friday). This needs to be kept in a separate bag. Please ensure all items are labelled.

## Home Learning:

Our Learning at Home Grids are made available on seesaw. These grids include a variety of optional challenges linked to the topics your child is covering in class and reinforce the knowledge and skills taught.

We encourage families to share the learning that the children have done at home on Seesaw.

Each day, please ensure your child reads at home and changes their book regularly in class. Please comment on your child's reading at home through Seesaw at least once per week. Books bags must be in school on Fridays.

## What are we learning?

In English this half term the children will be reading 'Naughty Bus' they will also be learning to write sentences using punctuation and adjectives. The children will then have the opportunity to write their own innovated stories.

This half term in Maths we will be • counting, reading and writing numbers from 1-20 We will be learning how to represent and use number bonds and subtraction facts within 10. We will also be Identifying and representing numbers using objects and pictorial representations including the number line, and use the language of: equal to, more than, less than (fewer), most, least.

Our Science topic this half term is seasons. Children will learn about the different seasons and how they change throughout the year. As part of our science topic this term we will be visiting Fog lane park to identify and discuss the signs of Autumn.



# Year 2

## Diary Dates:

- Wednesday 25th September - New Year Group Induction Meeting for Parents & Carers
- - 8th October - First School PTA Movie Night (3:30pm - 5:30pm)
- Friday 1st November - School Closed for INSET Day

## Key Information:

### Reading books:

All children have been given reading books. We recommend that you read with your child for at least 15 mins a day. Please leave voice notes comments on seesaw when you read at home.

### PE Day:

Please remember your PE kit every Monday and Thursday!

## Home Learning:

Our Learning @ Home Grids and Spellings for this term are available via Seesaw. Please do remember to read regularly with children at home. Oxford Reading Buddy is an essential home learning tool which children can log into to read e-books at home at their level.

## What are we learning?

In **English**, we will continue to embed key writing skills. The children will be writing their own 'Portal Story', inspired by the book, 'Katie and the Dinosaurs' by James Mayhew. Children will be learning to use coordinating conjunctions and subordinating conjunctions in their writing.

In **Maths**, we will be focusing on consolidating number and place value to 100. We will also start learning about column addition and subtraction, both with renaming and without. We will continue practising to count in 2s, 5s and 10s.

In **Science**, we are learning all about animals and their habitats. We will be learning about how habitats provide food, water and shelter for animals and we'll specifically focus on rainforests, deserts and ponds alongside many more.



# Year 3

## Diary Dates:

- Wednesday 25th September - Online Year Group Induction Meeting for Parents & Carers.
- - 8th October - First School PTA Movie Night (3:30pm - 5:30pm)
- Friday 1st November - School Closed for INSET Day

## Key Information:

### Reading books:

All children have been given reading books. We recommend that you read with your child for at least 15 mins a day. Please leave a short voice note or comments on seesaw when you read at home to say which words your child found tricky or new vocabulary.

### PE Day:

Please remember your PE kit every Monday and Friday! PE kits should remain in school throughout the week.

## Home Learning:

**Please see Seesaw for your child's latest Learning @ home grid, spellings and times tables for the half term.**

**Each day, please ensure your child reads at home and changes their book regularly in class. Please comment on your child's reading at home through Seesaw at least once per week.**

**Each week, your child must practise their times tables and spellings. This should be done at least 3 times per week**

**Our Learning at Home Grids include a variety of optional challenges linked to the topics your child is covering in class and these will help to reinforce the knowledge and skills taught.**

## What are we learning?

**Our topic this half term is 'What causes volcanoes, earthquakes and mountains?' This is a geography focus.**

In **English** this half term the children will be learning to write a setting description about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Their writing will be inspired by focus book for this half term 'Escape from Pompeii' by Christina Balit. The children will recap over key skills taught in Year 2 and will begin to learn how to use fronted adverbials and powerful vocabulary to describe. The children will also learn how to write non chronological reports about natural disasters.

In **Maths** this half term we will focus on place value, addition and subtraction.

In **Science** we will learn all about rocks and how they are formed. Children will learn about the different types of rock, how to identify them and also how to classify and compare soil types.



# Year 4

## Diary Dates:

Thursday 12th September -Swimming begins for classes 4S and 4G

Wednesday 25th September - New Year Group Induction Meeting for Parents & Carers

Friday 1st November - School Closed for INSET Day

## Key Information:

PE will take place each Wednesday (outdoor games - tag rugby). Swimming happens on Thursdays on a rotation with classes 4S and 4G starting this term.

Mid-morning snacks are available to purchase from the canteen, each day. Fruit is 10p and bagels/muffins are 30p.

## Home Learning:

Please see your child's home learning grid, which has been uploaded to Seesaw. Spellings for this half term ahead have also been shared. These are taught on Monday and checked on Thursday.

Please also remember to read regularly with children at home as this will be monitored closely and incentivised in school. Children are welcome to change their books on any day throughout the week.

## What are we learning?

This half term, our learning challenge '**What did the Ancient Greeks bring to the world?**' has a history focus. We will learn about what life was like in Ancient Greece along with Ancient Greek culture and what they discovered.

In **English**, we will explore the writing of Greek Myths through famous stories such as Theseus and the Minotaur. Our non-fiction genre will be 'writing to inform'. Our sentence-level areas of focus will be expanded noun, and fronted adverbials.

In **Maths**, we will be focussing on number and place value - the value of a digit and its position, and developing our addition and subtraction skills.

In **Science**, Sound will be our unit of exploration, thinking about sources of sound, how it travels and how we can manipulate pitch.



# Year 5

## Diary Dates:

**River Mersey walk** - date tbc

**Black History Month** – October (more information to follow)

## Key Information:

This half term the children will have gymnastics **every Tuesday** and games **every Wednesday**.

It is essential children bring in the correct PE kit for these lessons.

## Home Learning:

Please see Seesaw for your child's Learning at Home Grid and spellings for this half term. Every Friday, there will be a spelling check in class.

Each week, your child will be set an activity on **Mangahigh** which must be completed alongside reading and spellings.

Please ensure that your child is sharing their reading on Seesaw regularly with their teachers. Teachers will be monitoring this and then will choose a **"star reader"** from each class weekly to celebrate their reading efforts.

## What are we learning?

Our topic title this half term is: **'How is a river formed?'** During this topic, we will be studying the features of a river and at the end of the half term we will take a trip to the River Mersey to consolidate our learning.

In **maths**, we will be focusing on: place value, addition and subtraction. We will be exploring numbers up to 1,000,000 and using written and mental strategies to help us add and subtract. As part of this unit, we will also be rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000.

This half term we will be writing our own **fear story** based on Zelda Claw and the Rain Cat. We will be looking at how we can build suspense in our writing and use a range of figurative language to make our stories stand out. We will also be writing an **information text** about rivers to go alongside our new learning question: How are rivers formed?



# Year 6

## Diary Dates:

Wednesday 25th September  
- New Year Group Induction

October - Black History  
Month

Friday 1st November - School  
Closed for INSET Day

## Key Information:

The children will be doing outdoor games on a **Thursday** and gymnastics on a **Monday**. They will need their PE kits on these days.

## Home Learning:

Please see your child's home learning grid, which has been uploaded to Seesaw.

Each week, children must complete their **MangaHigh** and **spag.com** activities as well as upload their **reading to Seesaw**. There will be a **spelling** test in class every Thursday afternoon.

## What are we learning?

In **English**, the children will be reading the book '**Star of Fear, Star of Hope**'. They will use the book as a stimulus to write their own stories based on friendship and courage. They will also use the themes of the book to write a diary entry. You can listen to the book [here](#).

In **Maths**, we will be having a big focus on place value. We will be exploring numbers to ten million (rounding, comparing and ordering). We will then be revisiting the 4 operations and exploring a range of strategies.

In **History**, we will be looking at how WWI and WWII impacted society and the people living in it.



# Our first week...

**Year 1** children have had a fantastic week settling in. They have enjoyed working with their kagan team and completing area challenges!



**Year 2** children have settled in brilliantly. Everyone was very enthusiastic and engaged with the hook lesson for our new Science topic where we explored components of different habitats with our hands.

Year 3 had a wonderful time exploring and using their practical equipment in Maths.



# Our first week...



Year 5 have had an amazing start to the year and have showcased their creative talents when making their class charters!

Year 4 children have had an action-packed first week, exploring 'hidden poetry', summer polaroids, a maths mission, and the UNCRC in creating our class charters.



Year 6 have made a fantastic start to the year. They have fully immersed themselves into our new topic on WWI and WWII. Here they are doing a drama activity based on our book, *Star of Fear, Star of Hope*.