

# Home Sweet Home



1839 + Bures School

## Emerald City Class Newsletter

### Welcome to a new school year!

Our class team is: Mrs Sarah Fairley (Class Teacher); and LSA's Mrs Emma Jenkins, Mrs Judith Root and Mrs Sarah Boatwright. We are always happy to speak to you about your child, but appreciate that it is difficult to just grab us at the moment due to the restrictions of adults on site. With this in mind, please arrange for an appointment through the school office for a Tuesday or Thursday afternoon.

### This term...

In our geography-based topic, Home Sweet Home, your child will learn about their local area as well as the wider world. We will be looking at the continents and then homing in on the United Kingdom, England, East Anglia and Suffolk. Children will look at maps of the local area, finding villages, towns and cities. We will look at Ordnance Survey maps and learn some symbols. Children will then plan a walk using a local map, studying the physical and human features they observe. Whilst on our walk, we will look at the river habitat, tying in with our science topic, Living Things and their habitats.

In our RE, we use the 'Emmanuel Project' scheme of learning. Our first unit is Judaism focussing on the question, "Why do Jewish families talk about repentance at New Year?" The following half term will be the Christianity unit, "Why was Jesus given the name saviour?"

Paint will be the main medium used in our art sessions, where we will begin looking at colour mixing and using palettes, followed by using our new skills to create landscape pictures in the style of John Constable.

### How you can help at home...

Sleep – plenty of it and preceded by a quiet and calm atmosphere, without any electronic gadgets, - a shared bedtime story is so much better! It has been proven that after watching any screen (including TV) it can take up to an hour for a child's brain activity to slow back down to normal levels ready for sleeping.

Helping your child to be independent and get their own belongings ready for each school day will encourage the right mind-set while at school too, as well as making mornings calm. They will need to look after all their belongings and use their lockers and drawers at school to keep everything safe. Arriving promptly at school in the mornings will help the children to prepare for the day and be ready to learn, sitting in their seats, by 8.40am. Please make sure that they arrive at the school gate in time to facilitate this. Children must not bring any items into school in order to help keep everyone as safe and healthy as possible.

Regular reading is vital to children's vocabulary and fluency development. Therefore, we ask that you ensure your child reads at least four times a week. Children should be asked questions about what they have read to check their understanding, especially as they move on to harder texts.

We will be looking at the Year One common exception words in the first half of term and then begin to look at the Year Two words in the second half. After that, at different spelling patterns each week. These can be practised at home using the Spelling Frame programme or using the list that will be in each child's reading record. We have put logins in the front of reading records.

### Home Learning Ideas

- Learn your address.
- Draw a map of your route to school – design some symbols and place them in the correct places.
- Practise using directional language – can you describe a route around your home/street/village to a parent, including left, right, half turn, quarter turn/clockwise, anti-clockwise..
- Record the different materials used in the building of your home.
- Write a letter to an alien describing you home and the area.
- Look at the creatures found in different habitats – how are they adapted to live where they do?
- Research a British animal and create a fact file to present to the class.
- Find out about John Constable.
- Has Bures always been the same?

### Remember...

Our PE days are Monday and Friday; however we recommend all children have their PE kit in school every day. Kit needs only be washed half termly.

Please remember that earrings should be removed on these days.

Water bottles need to be filled with only **water** and should be taken home daily for cleaning and refilling.