St Mary's C E Primary School
Southam Road
BANBURY
Oxfordshire
OX16 2EG

Telephone: 01295 263026
Email:office@banburystmarysschool.co.uk
Web: www.banburystmarysschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Victoria Woods

Autumn 2 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely October half term break.



Curriculum – Weather
This term our Year 2 topic is **Weather**. This topic encompasses Geography and Science. In Geography, we will explore how the weather changes with changing seasons throughout the United Kingdom and across the world. As scientists, we will explore the terms alive, dead and never been alive ad what a habitat is. We will investigate different types of habitats and explore how animals are adapted to living within these habitats.

In English, we will explore the story Lizzy and the Cloud by The Fan Brothers and what is means to Lizzy to look after the cloud. We will develop our inference skills, developing our won questions linked to the story. As writers, we will continue to develop our use of expanded noun phrases to give clear directions to characters before using command sentences to write instructions, letters and postcards in role of a character.

Please see the attached cog document for further information and details about each subject area.

Class rewards

Every day we are working towards adding 'Stars to our jar'. Every few weeks, we will be working towards a specific target and when we fill our stars we will get a whole class reward.

Children will be praised for demonstrating our vision in action and working hard on their learning journey with stars in the jar and house points. I can't wait to celebrate Robin's successes with them.

Reading
Reading ignites imagination, builds vocabulary, and directly boosts academic progress across every subject. To support your child's learning, we ask that they read at home at least **four times a week for 10–15 minutes per session**. Listening to your child read aloud as often as possible makes a huge difference, so please encourage them to log their reading in their reading record. Each night, children will bring home a stage-appropriate book, a self-chosen "reading for pleasure" book, and their reading record. Please ensure their reading record is returned to school every single day!

Homework
Our homework enables all pupils to make sure they have chance to practise and recall things like spellings and their times tables, to read regularly and also complete a weekly piece linked to our project. Over the half term the work the children complete can then be combined into a final project piece. I can't wait to see what the children create and bring

in to share with the class. Our homework books will be sent home every Thursday and should be returned to school on the following Tuesday.

PE Kit
All children should have indoor and outdoor kit e.g. shorts, house coloured t-shirt and plimsolls for indoors and trainers for outdoor sessions. **PE kits should be brought into school every Monday and taken home on a Friday to be washed for the following week.**
Please note pupils are not permitted to take part in PE lessons whilst wearing earrings (unless they have been pierced within the last six weeks in which case they are permitted to tape them up until six weeks has passed**.) Staff are not permitted to assist pupils with the removal or insertion of earrings**.

Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL)

It is important that the children have outdoor learning clothing in school every day to ensure children can play outside throughout the year. This includes waterproof clothing and a pair of wellies. Please name your child's clothing as it can be hard to reunite lost clothing and equipment to the right child if it is not named.

Birthday books
To support your child's dental hygiene we ask that you do **not** bring in sweet treats on your child's birthday. Instead, if you would like to, you are welcome to donate a book to the class. This could be a picture book, information book, a collection of poems or a loved story.

Reminders

- **Water Bottles** – please make sure children have a water bottle with them every day (separate from any drink in their lunch box) as this allows them to access water as and when they require it. To improve the oral health of children, only water is permitted in class. If your child brings in a bottle filled with something other than water, we will provide them with a cup so that they can access water during the day.
- **Snacks** – Children may bring in a **healthy snack** for mid-morning break. Suitable choices include fruit, cheese, yogurt and vegetable sticks. Do let us know if your child has any food allergies or intolerances.
- **Absence and sickness** – please let the office know if your child is not attending because they are ill. Also please note that Health Protection Agency guidance states that children should not return to school for 48 hours after the last episode of either sickness or diarrhea.

Contact
Should you need to contact me about any matters arising, you may email direct using the following address:

r.townson@banburystmarysschool.co.uk

Please be aware that any messages sent may not be seen until later in the school day or after school as I may be busy with classroom duties and teaching earlier in the day. In all cases I will endeavour to reply to you within 2 working days. Obviously if the matter is more urgent, for example about attendance or changes to the routine of collecting your child then you should contact the school office.

I look forward to continuing to working with and helping your children achieve our vision; Learning, Transforming and Growing.

Kind Regards,

Rebecca Townson