



Radley CE Primary School & Foundation Stage Unit

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. We are starting the year with a very popular cross curricular themed topic of '**Fire, Fire!**' which is based on The Great Fire of London. The science theme will be '**Everyday Materials and their uses**'. This topic helps the children to identify not only different materials but also focuses on their suitability for particular uses.

Home Learning tasks will continue to be sent home on Friday (for Year 2 only) to be returned on a Wednesday, so they can be marked. Year 1 tasks will commence in January. Please continue to hear your child read, using the Reading Record to add any comments on home reading. Please see the end of this letter, for the phonics 'Read, Write, Inc' home support.

Our class role play area will be a Fire Response Unit, and we are hoping the Fire Service will visit to talk to the children about fire safety and awareness. If you have any resources or expertise related to our topic please let me know.

Below is an outline of the curriculum areas we will be learning about:

English	Poetry: Songs and repetitive poems Fiction: Traditional Tales from different cultures (focus of Dragons) Non-fiction: Labels, lists, signs & posters Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling activities RWI – daily sessions Handwriting exercises
Maths	Place Value (3 weeks) Addition and Subtraction (3 weeks) Investigational Maths (ongoing)
Science	Uses of Everyday Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Identifying uses- Materials in the environment- Comparing suitability- Changing shape of materials- Recycling- Inventors of new materials Seasons: Autumn
I.C.T.	We are Storytellers – linked to the Great Fire of London
History / Geography	The Great Fire of London: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Past & Present London- How long ago was 1666?- Who was Samuel Pepys- Events of the Great Fire
Art / D.T.	Homes from the past (1666)
R.E.	Christianity – What did Jesus teach?
P.E.	Gym (Tuesday) Games (Thursday) – Year 1; Forest School – Year 2
Music	Rhymes and songs of the Great Fire
P.S.H.E.	New Beginnings which focuses on: Empathy, self-awareness, motivation and social skills

Our School value for this term is **Relationships**, and we will be exploring this theme as a whole school as well as in our class assembly times.

Mrs McConaghy will be working with Cherwell Class on Tuesdays for this coming term.

Forest School will continue on Thursdays, with one year group at a time having this experience. Year 2 will have the first slot up to the half term break.

If you would like any further details on the term or have any questions please let me know.

There will be a 'drop in session' for the new Year 1 Cherwell parents on Thursday 13th September from 3:30 – 5:00pm. This will be an opportunity for you to pop into the classroom to ask any questions about Cherwell class, which may arise after the initial start of term.

Thank you for your support.

Julie Ilsley
Cherwell Class Teacher

Read, Write, Inc Home Learning Tasks

Children will continue to bring an activity sheet **or** a word list home on a Monday and will be tested on these words on a Friday. In addition to this list, your child may bring home a RWI book to compliment the group of words that they are learning. This book can be read together and there are ideas in the back of questions that you could ask. These books will also be given out on a Monday and need to be returned the following Monday.

Please do not worry if your child brings home a sheet with a letter pattern that they have had previously. All the children have been assessed and are in the appropriate levelled group. Sometimes this may mean that they are repeating sounds that they have come across before.

The groups that are given weekly spellings to learn, you will notice that the word list has a different layout. We would like the children to use the '**Look, Cover, Write, Check**' method to learn their spellings (which many of you do already). Below is an explanation on this method.

Look, Cover, Write, Check Method

1. Cover up the first word, and write it from memory in column 1.
2. Uncover the word, and check to see if you have spelt it correctly.
3. Cover the word again, and also cover your first attempt at spelling it in column 1, have another 'go' at writing the word from memory in column 2.
4. Check the word carefully.
5. Cover the word, and also cover your attempts in columns 1 and 2, and write the word for the last time in column 3.
6. Finally check the word for the last time, to make sure that you have spelt it correctly.