



Koala Class Newsletter

2021-2022

A very big welcome to Brighstone Primary School. I hope you and your child have enjoyed your first few days and are feeling relaxed and settled.

The adults working with you this year

Class Teacher: Mrs Cousins

LSA: Miss Goddard

PE: Mr Goldsmith

Y1 RE: Mrs Boyd **Y1 PSHE:** Mrs Lennon **Y1 Science:** Mrs Denness

Mrs Cousins and Miss Goddard are the Key People for all children in Koala Class, so if you have any questions or worries please don't hesitate to speak to us.

What do you need to bring?



Mondays:

- PE kit in a suitable bag. (PE will be on Thursday afternoons but this can change and PE kits may be needed throughout the week).

Every day:

- Bring your Reading Bag with your reading books, and a named water bottle.
- Spare clothes if your child is prone to accidents (and wipes if appropriate) – we have a limited supply in school. We don't make a fuss or mind when these accidents happen.
- Packed lunch and drink.
- Coat in cooler weather as we spend a lot of time outside (clearly named please).
- Wellies and wet weather gear (named) for outdoor play. We will happily support children to put them on until they are independent.

Fridays:

- PE kits will go home.

We encourage children not to bring toys into school as these do get lost. Do speak to me if your child needs a special toy for comfort though as we can always accommodate this.

Reading



Your child will be given a reading book to bring home and share, and a book they have chosen from the class library. Whilst we will not be setting Home Learning activities for children in Reception, we ask that you **please do** try to read together every evening if possible. This is a good habit to start in Reception. It is important to both listen to your child read his/her school book, and also to read stories to your child. Please sign in the reading record book each time you listen to your child read. The books will be changed on Mondays and Thursdays each week.

Snack Café and Lunchtime



The Snack Café is open every morning after Read Write Inc and children can access it freely. There is always fruit and water available, and children are entitled to free milk until they are 5. We encourage them to drink water throughout the day. The Year 1 children will go out to play with Polar Bear Class, while the Reception children will be free-flowing between indoor and outdoor play.

Lunch is between 11:45 and 12:45. Children can have a school meal or bring a packed lunch and they self-register each morning by putting their name on the school dinner or packed lunch picture. The weekly menu is posted in The Buzz.

Toilets



We are lucky enough to have an “en suite” classroom! This enables the children to go to the toilet whenever they need to and we don’t expect them to ask. I encourage them to go at certain times (e.g. before Worship or lunch). Toileting can be a troublesome thing for some children and we will do everything we can to keep it calm and stress free. We do insist on regular hand washing and good hygiene, and we have a limited supply of spare undies. If your child is prone to accidents it would be really helpful if you could keep a spare pair of pants, socks and a carrier bag on their peg. Thank you.

Homework (Year 1 Only)

Homework is given out in the Homework Diaries for each half term. Please see your Homework Diary for more information. In addition you are expected to read your reading book, or any other book, as often as you can (preferably every day if possible). This will help to improve not only your reading but your writing too!

Topics



We will have different topics each half term. A Topic Web will be sent out at the beginning of every half term that explains what we will be learning and the subjects that will be focused on for that particular topic.

Golden Worship



This takes place on Friday mornings from 8:40am. Parents of children who are in the Golden Book that week, for an outstanding achievement, will be invited to join us in the school hall. This will be accessed via the school car park once children have been dropped at their classroom doors. There will be a signing in sheet by the hall door.

Brighstone School Association

As parents, you are automatically members of our BSA. We meet approximately once per half term and our first meeting this year is on Wednesday 8th September in the Three Bishops pub at 7:30pm. Please do come along and join us, with no commitments.



Attendance



At Brighstone we expect all children to have a minimum attendance of 96.5% and to start the school day punctually. This is key to ensure that you don't miss any important schooling – lessons start as soon as school starts at 8.25am! If by any chance you are late, please go to the main school office where they will be registered.

If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please do come and see me.

Many thanks,

Kirsti Cousins