

High Littleton C. of E. Primary School, High Littleton, Bristol BS39 6HF

Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

Tel: 01761 470622 Fax: 01761 472800

Email: office@highlittleton.mnsp.org.uk

Web: www.highlittletonschool.com

Head Teacher: Mr Gareth Griffith

Tuesday, 8th September 2026



Dear Parents,

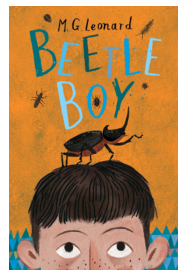
For me, the beginning of September always brings a rather specific mixture of feelings: excitement for all the new and unknown alongside sadness for long lost slow family mornings filled with sunshine (so plentiful this year!). Nevertheless, I hope that you have all truly enjoyed every day of your summer holiday, as I did.

I am delighted to be starting this journey with you and looking forward to a year filled with exciting learning and growing together as a class. As always, it will be busy. We are hoping to organise a visit to a Mandir, a Mosque and a Synagogue in Bristol and are looking forward to our Hindu workshops to enrich our learning about Hinduism in RE.

I do hope that we all (including me!) return to school life with hope and anticipation, and settle happily into the routines and dynamics of our new class. We will need time to get to know each other and be able to form a meaningful partnership, so please bear with me. Many of us find this transition period tricky.

If you are concerned in any way about your child, or would like to talk to me about anything, please do not hesitate to send in an email, contact the office to arrange a meeting or leave a message. I will do my best to respond as quickly as possible.

Reading: Although your child is becoming a fantastic, independent reader it would be great if you could still hear them read at home or ask them to tell you about the books they are reading regularly. At this stage the emphasis is on a deepening understanding and appreciation for the text, including making predictions based on what they have read and to encourage all children to develop a love of reading for pleasure. In Otter Class this year we will be focusing on whole class reading, starting with *The Beetle Boy* by M. G. Leonard.



Each child is expected to have a reading book to read at home and in school. There are many new books on our bookshelves in Otter Class: I believe that each child will find an interesting read there. As the whole school, we are using the Accelerated Reader to help each child find an appropriate book in terms of their decoding and comprehension level. Each child chooses their books independently, within the range they are placed. After completing their book, a knowledge test is available for them to check their understanding.

Spelling: Each week we will be focusing on different spelling patterns or rules. **Spelling lists and an activity/activities to apply this learning will be given out on Tuesday to be handed in the following Tuesday.** The children will be tested every week and the Homework Books will be checked. Please encourage your child to practise daily or a few times a week to ensure sound recall of those rules and patterns. To further support them, children will also be given time in school to practise their spellings.

“Love each other as I have loved you” John 15:12



Maths: This term we will be focusing on Place Value and Addition and Subtraction units. Please find the lists of objectives attached below.

Place value objectives:

Step 1 Represent numbers to 1,000	
Step 2 Partition numbers to 1,000	Step 10 Estimate on a number line to 10,000
Step 3 Number line to 1,000	Step 11 Compare numbers to 10,000
Step 4 Thousands	Step 12 Order numbers to 10,000
Step 5 Represent numbers to 10,000	Step 13 Roman numerals
Step 6 Partition numbers to 10,000	Step 14 Round to the nearest 10
Step 7 Flexible partitioning of numbers to 10,000	Step 15 Round to the nearest 100
Step 8 Find 1, 10, 100, 1,000 more or less	Step 16 Round to the nearest 1,000
Step 9 Number line to 10,000	Step 17 Round to the nearest 10, 100 or 1,000

Addition and subtraction objectives:

Step 1 Add and subtract 1s, 10s, 100s and 1,000s	Step 6 Subtract two 4-digit numbers – one exchange
Step 2 Add up to two 4-digit numbers – no exchange	Step 7 Subtract two 4-digit numbers – more than one exchange
Step 3 Add two 4-digit numbers – one exchange	Step 8 Efficient subtraction
Step 4 Add two 4-digit numbers – more than one exchange	Step 9 Estimate answers
Step 5 Subtract two 4-digit numbers – no exchange	Step 10 Checking strategies

Times Tables

Please remember that learning times tables is a priority in year 4! Quick and secure recall of multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 x12 (which is expected by The National Curriculum by the end of

“Love each other as I have loved you” John 15:12



year 4) will equip the children to confidently approach all aspects of Maths. We will be practising daily by revisiting each times table individually to begin with, completing times tables tests and practising using online programmes. It is essential that you also practise times tables at home. There are plenty of apps you can download onto a tablet that can make learning more fun. All support in this area will be greatly appreciated.

Doodle Maths and Doodle Tables

Please enable your child to access Doodle Maths and Doodle Tables regularly. Alongside the spellings, it's the only regular homework that I will expect to be completed. Collecting 50 points on Doodle Maths and 30 points on Doodle Tables is expected weekly (from Monday to Friday) and will be monitored every Monday. The children were given their logins and new passwords already to be able to begin this week. If you have a problem accessing a computer at home, please let me know.

Geography: This term we will be exploring the USA topic in which we will be looking into the location of the country, mastering the exact location of all fifty states, 'visiting' New York City and closely looking at its transformation and expansion over the years, learning about the variety of the USA's physical features (including the Great Canyon, main mountain ranges and Great Lakes with Niagara Falls), the USA's varied climate and the extreme weather conditions (like droughts, floods, tornadoes and hurricanes), but also looking into human processes and interdependence of farming, population density and distribution. If at all possible, please allow your child to use this Seterra website (<https://online.seterra.com/en/vgp/3452>), which is full of online map quizzes. Completing those map quizzes will help your child to use all the knowledge they have gathered in school.



Science: We will be investigating States of Matter. We will learn how to group materials into solids, liquids or gases, and conduct simple experiments with water to show its different properties in changing forms. We will also observe how different materials change when heated or cooled. We will remind ourselves about the stages of the water cycle and identify the effect of temperature on the rate of evaporation and climate change. Don't worry—no teachers or children will be turning into gas during the experiments!

Below are just a few reminders to ensure the smooth running of Otter Class.

- **PE** will be on Tuesday (Dance with myself) and Friday (Football with Mrs Beale), so please make sure your child comes to school wearing their PE kit on these days.
- Please remember to bring a named and fresh filled **water bottle** to school **every day** and a fruit snack for morning break.
- Please make sure that your child has a waterproof jacket in school every day. Being an Opal school, we go outside in all weathers.

I look forward to our busy and exciting term together. I would like to create a safe and encouraging space for your children, in which they can thrive and develop. In Otter Class we always try our hardest and our best effort is always good enough.

Yours sincerely,

Ania Woods
Class Teacher

“Love each other as I have loved you” John 15:12

