

**Bow Community Primary**  
**Station Road, Bow, Crediton, Devon**

EX17 6HU

Telephone: 01363 82319

E-mail: [admin@bowcps.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bowcps.devon.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Lesley Hodgson



Learn, Share, Enjoy

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Hello Parents of Stags!

**Re: Autumn term in Stags**

Welcome to the beginning of a new and unique year in Stags – for the first time we are a Year 6 only class! Welcome back to the few of you who are in your second year in Stags and a warm welcome to the new pupils. We have a fun term of tasks planned with our new class of school-leaders. Our topic for the term until Christmas revolves around ‘survival’ and we will look at some extreme environments around the world and how animals and plants survive in these. We also will be learning about our history topic ‘The Normans’ and visit the ruins of Okehampton Castle which began life as a motte and bailey castle with a stone keep.

Please find an overview of some of the activities and areas which we intend to learn about, visible on the accompanying ‘Long Term Project Plan: Autumn Term 2021/22’.

**PE**

Physical Education will take place on Monday as before as we continue with our excellent support from Mr Evans and *Primary Sports*. A second PE session will occur on Thursday afternoons. **On these two days, children should come to school in PE kit and remain in their PE kit for the day** due to changing room facilities not being in use. Children should wear usual PE kit of a royal blue or white t-shirt and black or dark-coloured shorts and dark trainers. On days of cooler weather, tracksuit clothing may be worn.

**Contact**

Please send email anything of urgency to [admin@bowcps.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bowcps.devon.sch.uk) as the office is on email regularly during the day. I can be contacted on [stags@bowcps.devon.sch.uk](mailto:stags@bowcps.devon.sch.uk) however I will not be able to respond during school hours due to teaching responsibilities. I will endeavour to respond as quickly as is manageable and in line with our communication policy.

**Stationery**

There is no need to bring stationery in from home, all materials will be provided for your child.

**The school day**

The school day will initially be returning to more conventional, pre-pandemic timings. The school day will begin at 8.55. Children may arrive from 8.45 onwards where a member of staff will be on duty in the rear school playground. They should enter via the gate to the left of the school entrance. Break time will return to 10.30-10.45, and lunch time will return to a 12.30-1.30 time slot. Toilet use within lesson time is greatly discouraged (unless there are medical exemptions that I am notified about) in order to ensure greater learning opportunities. Children are encouraged to go during break time, and if they do need to go, then of course they will be allowed. Children may also not go more than one at a time.

**Bikeability**

Year 6 pupils will receive bikeability in the week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> September, please consider your preparations for this. Initial letters were sent at the end of the last school year and have been resent this week along with paper permission slips.



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### **Residential**

Our intention is to run a 3-day, 2-night residential in June this academic year. Our usual destination of the Eden Project is not available due to refurbishments. Details about our destination and a payment plan will be released to you during this half term when costings have been finalized.

### **Home Learning**

Homework will be sent out on a Thursday, and is due in by Tuesday in order to be marked and smileys earned. Also, please look at the links below for our class logins which provide a wealth of learning opportunities to continue your child's development at home.

In order to maintain the standard expected of children in reading it is advised that children read for approximately 20 minutes per day – much of this may occur at school. Children are encouraged to read regularly at home. *Accelerated Reader* continues to be implemented and children are encouraged to read books within their reading levels in order to access material best suited to them.

There are a great range of websites that the children have access to which we greatly encourage use of. They each have their own individual login for each site and if you have misplaced a login, please contact me for the details.

[bowcps.typingclub.com](http://bowcps.typingclub.com) will give children excellent typing practice, a very important skill in the step up to secondary school.

[trockstars.com](http://trockstars.com) gives children the opportunity to master and hone the vital skill of quick multiplication and division practice.

[readtheory.org](http://readtheory.org) is a site of great benefit for developing comprehension skills. If your child struggles with comprehension or wants to improve their reading in quick, bite-size ways, this is a great site to do this on.

[duolingo.com](http://duolingo.com) is a superb way to make early inroads to learning languages, your child will be assigned to a French course for the school year.

[Edshed.com](http://Edshed.com) will give access to vital spelling practice, a common weakness amongst children, ensuring that they learning key words sets them up for success in their writing assessments.

It is still important to regularly practice reading, spellings and maths skills (even if children are confident readers, spellers or mathematicians). Please speak to the class teacher if you require some book recommendations, spelling lists or advice on calculation strategies.

### **E-Safety**

It is one of the school's greatest challenges to support children in their safe use of the internet and social media. Please visit <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> for guidelines to age appropriateness of most websites. Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat and Youtube all have age limits of 13 to be able to sign up. Any unsupervised use of these sites is greatly discouraged – we consider the quantity of inappropriate content that children have access to through these websites to be grossly unsuitable. We advise using the 'Youtube Kids' app or only using Youtube in family rooms/with supervision and to refrain from social media use until meeting the recommended age limits. Please monitor and vet your children's devices – you are helping to safeguard your child's wellbeing by doing so, it is not an invasion of their privacy. If you require any support or advice on this, please do not hesitate to ask.



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I hope that your child has a successful term and enjoys and thrives in the responsibility of being amongst the eldest children in school; learning, developing and taking great pride in all that they do.

*CAJohnston*

Mr Johnston  
**Stags Class Teacher**

