

Cowrie Class - Summer 1



Reading and Phonics

At St Minver, we are committed to nurturing your child's love of reading from the moment they join us. This half term, your child will bring home a small blue reading record along with a book they have chosen from our class library.

Inside the front cover of the reading record, you'll find handy tips for sharing the book at home. After you've enjoyed the book together, please write a short comment or sign the record. We'll then make sure your child chooses a new book the next time they are in school.

This half term, our book selection includes a much-loved range of under the sea stories to support our topic.

In addition, our daily phonics sessions will begin for our 2026 school starters. The sounds we'll focus on are:

j, v, w, y, z, qu

Our Topic: "Our Little Lives At The Beach"

This half term, the children will be learning all about life at the beach. We will be exploring the animals, plants, and people who live and work by the seaside.

The children will discover how crabs, fish and seagulls survive in their habitats, and we will talk about how shells, seaweed, and sand are all part of beach life.

Through stories, songs, role play, and creative activities, the children will learn about beach safety, keeping the seaside clean, and looking after the environment. The children will enjoy sensory trays with shells and sand, making seaside crafts and imagining what it's like living or visiting the seaside.



Book Bags

We believe it's important for every child to have a book bag for school. A book bag provides:

- A safe place for letters and documentation
- A secure way to transport reading books between home and school
- A sense of belonging for your child

If you need a book bag, please let us know—our wonderful PTA kindly provides them for all new starters. We have received our first batch and the children are so excited to be bringing them into school. We have some more on the way so please don't worry if your child has not yet received one.

Thank you for your support!



Weekly Updates

Weekly updates will continue to be posted on tapestry each week. These updates give you an opportunity to help prepare your child for the learning ahead.

If you have any queries or questions, please feel free to pop in and see me—I'm always happy to help!

Our Topic Texts



Wet Weather Gear

If you can provide some waterproofs and wellies for your child to keep in school, that would be brilliant! We go outside every day in all weathers, so being prepared helps keep the children cleaner and drier.

Please name all items and pop them in a named plastic bag so we can store them on their pegs.

If you're unable to provide these, please don't worry—we have some spare wet weather gear that children can borrow. We also plan to fundraise in the new year for additional items if needed.

Thank you for your support!



Tapestry



Hopefully, you are all set up to use Tapestry. We use this platform to keep you updated on how your child is getting on during the day and to give you a little insight into the activities they enjoy.

Please feel free to 'like' or comment on the photos we share—it's lovely to see your feedback! You can also add photos from home, such as weekend activities or special moments. Sharing these helps us celebrate your child's experiences and gives them confidence when talking about what they've been doing.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to pop in for a chat or book an appointment—I'm always happy to help. Thank you for your continued support.

Hannah Treleven