



Happy New Year from Year One

Spring 08.01.18

Firstly we would like to welcome everyone back after the holiday and say Happy New Year to you all! We had a great time during the Autumn term and the children thoroughly enjoyed our 'Art Attack and 'What a Wonderful World' topics. This term we will be covering two topics: 'Hocus Pocus' where the children will be learning about various traditional tales and writing recipes and ingredients for a range of topics, and 'Home' where we turn our attention to our local environment. We will also look at old and new toys and think about how they have changed over time.

Timetable

- Play Ball continues to be on Wednesday for both Orange and Silver Class. Mrs Douglass will be back to teaching National Curriculum Dance in Year One on Thursday mornings this half term. Please ensure your child has a full P.E kit on their pegs at all times for additional PE, which needs to include a white t-shirt, red shorts and plimsolls. On both Wednesday and Thursday children are expected to wear black legging/jogging bottoms.
- -Library day for Silver Class continues to be on a Monday and remains on a Tuesday for Orange Class. Please ensure you bring it back on the given day to be changed as that is the only slot we have in our busy timetable.
- -We are continuing to offer different subject choices for the children's homework. Please continue to encourage your child to choose different options week by week. Speed-reads will be sent in the log books on Mondays and assessed on Fridays; please ensure your child pronounces each sound carefully and consistently checks their spelling. Homework is also set on a Monday and is due in the following Monday. We expect the children to be taking care of their home learning logs and handing in work that is presented in a way that is expected from them in school (please record in pencil).
- Please remember that we implement a password system across the whole school when children are being picked up at the end of the day. These emergency passwords are to be used when someone *other than* a regular arrangement, or person named in the 'Going Home' book, is picking up your child at the end of the school day. Please ensure that you inform the school of any changes to regular pick-up arrangements by completing the relevant form from the office.

Phonics Screening Check 2018

The phonics screening check is a national assessment to check your child's decoding skills and whether they are applying what they have learnt in their phonics lessons. The check is based on 20 real words and 20 nonsense (not real) words. They read the words aloud to a familiar teacher on a 1:1 basis, in a quiet room.

Reason for the compulsory check:

- To assess how children sound out and blend sounds in order to read simple words.
- To record whether children can read phonically decodable (saying the sounds out loud and then joining them) one-syllable and two-syllable words, e.g. cat, sand, windmill.
- To understand if children can read a selection of nonsense words which are referred to as pseudo words. These are to check their decoding skills, but they do not need to say if the words are real or nonsense (this is indicated by pictures of aliens for nonsense words).



Happy New Year from Year One

Spring 08.01.18

Expectations

- ✓ Sound out each sound in the word using pure sounds.
 - ✓ Blend the sounds out loud.
 - ✓ Say the whole word out loud.
 - ✓ Self-correct without adult encouragement.
- X** Forget to blend. Just say the sounds and not whole word.
- X** Add additional sounds into words.
- X** Not read the whole word out loud.
- X** Rely on adult intervention to decode and blend.

Decoding

- Children need to say each sound in the word from left to right.
- Children should blend the whole word and say it out loud.

If children are struggling:

- Talk about the meaning if they don't understand the word they have read.
- Work at their pace.

Pure sounds

Please ensure children pronounce their sounds purely to promote correct reading. The video below demonstrates pure sounds: <http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/sound-pronunciation-guide/>

Date and results

The phonics check will be administered during the week commencing the **11th June. (It may only be taken the following week if absent but no time after that)**. We will feedback scores by the end of the Summer term. If children do not meet the expected mark they retake the screening check in Year Two.

Behaviours of learning

The children have made encouraging progress so far in Year One and to develop this further we are inspiring them to be:

- ✓ Resilient- keep trying especially when faced with a challenge.
- ✓ Independent- work with greater independence to show understanding and maturity.
- ✓ Curious- investigate and ask appropriate questions to explore the world around them.
- ✓ Enthusiastic- show eagerness to learn and engage with a task.
- ✓ Focused- listen and follow instructions with greater independence.
- ✓ Problem solvers- take risks within their learning to broaden their knowledge (independently think outside the box).

Websites

<http://chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk/parents/resources-for-parents> - look at the Phonics section

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621157/STA177753_p_2017_phonics_screening_check_pupils_materials_standard.pdf - example papers



Happy New Year from Year One

Spring 08.01.18

Questions following the topic meeting:

- 1. Are the children aware that they are being assessed?** We do not tell the children about the screening but encourage them to sound out and do their best blending. They do this regularly throughout the year. We do not say it is a test.
- 2. What if they can read the words by sight?** We encourage all children to sound out the word and add buttons/bars underneath to support their blending. Some words may look similar but could be nonsense and so we emphasise the importance of sounding out and blending.

Please continue to discuss word meanings with your children. This will help them to recognise real and nonsense words.

We look forward to another great term and thank you for your continued support.

Miss Flitney and Mrs Sanghera