

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back for the educational year 2024-2025! We have had the best two weeks back settling in and adjusting to being back at school with behaviour and routines! Miss. Gregory, Mrs. Macarthur, Miss. Hall, Miss. Hemmingway and Miss. Hales are so proud of how well the children have come back and their super attitudes that have returned with them!

This is just a quick letter to cover a number of things to ensure everyone knows what is going on and anything that may have altered from past years!

Firstly, just a little reminder that all children need a **labelled water bottle** in school- this can come in on a Monday and we will ensure they get fresh water daily- *as we are a healthy school, we ask that only water comes in in classroom bottles.* They will then bring their water bottle home on a Friday along with their PE kits for washing over the weekend. A **cap** and **sun cream** would also be greatly appreciated in school for *if* the sun comes out the play! (again, labelled please!)

School will provide **fresh fruit** each day for the children, ranging from bananas, apples, pears and carrots to mini cucumbers, mangetout peas and tomatoes! Should you however wish for your child to bring in their **own snack**, then please can you ensure this is a healthy snack. **Milk** will also be provided for free to children under age 5, and for any parents who wish for their child to carry on receiving milk after age 5 are asked to contact the school office.

Your child will have brought home a reading book today:

- **Reception** will be starting with Little Wandle wordless books to build up their story sequencing and vocabulary skills as they start to build up their phoneme/ sound recognition
- **Year One** will have a Little Wandle book inline with their phonetical reading ability. (Please note; the book that has come home today will not have been read in school as we have been carrying out assessments this week)
- **Year Two** will be bringing home a Little Wandle book until Autumn half term, while we finish bridging the gaps in sound knowledge from transitioning over from Read Write Inc. After Autumn half term, the Year Two children will start to move over to the Accelerated Readers programme (information will follow closer to the time.)

Reading books from next week will be changed each **Thursday** once they children have read the book three times in school; giving them familiarity and confidence to build their skills with phonetical decoding, fluency, recognition of tricky words and comprehension.

We ask that these Little Wandle Reading books are then read **at least three times at home** before their next book change the following Thursday;

	Focus	Explanation
Read One	- Decoding the book - Recognition of tricky words	Children use their phonics knowledge to decode the words as well as recognising by sight the tricky words they will have learnt inline with the programme in school.
Read Two	- Reading for fluency and speed	This is another opportunity for the children to apply their phonics knowledge but this time hopefully with more speed, aiding them to start and subconsciously focus more on the story and meanings (fluency). They should be starting to recognise some of the words second time round with little/no decoding. Adults can model prosody (intonation, expression, pausing) when reading.
Read Three	-Comprehension	This time, when reading the book again, the child should be familiar and confident with most of the words. We can then question the children on their understanding of what they have read; do they understand what is happening and why? Lots of questioning can take place. See attached/stapled 'help sheet'

The children will also be bringing home a **'reading for pleasure'** book that they choose each week. This is a book to share with an adult, to model reading and promote a love of reading! (*For now, all are to ignore the decimal number label!!*)

Spelling for Year One and Year Two will start to come home next Friday (20th September). This will be presented in a small book and they will complete a **spelling test on Friday mornings**. We ask that they practise their spellings as part of weekly homework.

Homework will also start to come home next Friday (20th September). It will be due in on a Thursday, and new homework will come home with your child on the following Friday.

Show and Tell will take place on a Wednesday afternoon. **Receptions** are invited to bring something different to share each week. This is encouraged as it aids them with communication and presentation skills as well as vocabulary and speech. **Year One and Two** are asked to bring something of interest or something educational to share with the class should they wish to take part; they could practise their ICT skills looking up key facts and information relating to their objects to make their presentation interesting and informative.

Tapestry is up and running for the Reception children's learning journey. Hopefully you will have had a chance to log in and become familiar with it- please come and see me if you need a password reset etc. Tapestry is where we will upload observations, photos and videos of **WOW Moments** that have stood out to members of staff. Timings may vary as to when we upload; sometimes it may be on the day and sometimes later in the week. If you go into your settings on the website, you can alter your notification settings for when you wish to be notified about various things in relation to uploads. You as parents can also upload things too to build up the profile of the whole child; not just them as a "school child"- we love to see home achievements!

Every week there will be an upload onto the **school website** with a summary of the week and what your child has been learning about! This provides opportunities for you to see what your child has been doing and creates opportunities to talk to them about their learning. This may be done on Fridays, or over the weekend. (If you haven't already, please complete the consent forms for photo permissions so we know which children are able to feature on the website.)

As a school, we will soon be starting to implement "**Class Dojo's**" as part of rewarding and praising the children's learning and behaviours; there will be individual rewards and class rewards to work towards. You can find out more about this by visiting their website: www.classdojo.com. As always, we will update you nearer the time of implementation!

Forest Schools and **Feast Friday** are currently in discussion with Mrs. Barker and Mrs. Acheson and they will inform you in due course of relevant information.

Last but certainly not least... **BOBBY BEAR!** Bobby has a new book for the new school year that will need filling with lots of exciting adventures! He will be coming home on Fridays to spend the weekend with one child at a time! If anyone has anything planned for a specific weekend and would like to have Bobby then, please let me know in advance and we can make sure he comes home with your child for an extra special weekend adventure!

The book can be filled in with pictures and comments/a narrative, and when it is brought back in on the **following Monday morning** we will share the weekends adventures with the class! (This can also be an opportunity for the children to write parts/some/all of the narrative to practise their writing skills!)

Weekly Timetable Overview:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
- PE kits in - Water bottles in - Bobby Bear and book returned		-Show and Tell	-Homework due in	- Spelling tests (Yr1 and Yr2) - PE kits home - Water bottles home - New homework home - New spellings home - Bobby Bear will come home with a child

If anyone has any questions at all, please don't hesitate to catch me at the end of the day as per the open door policy or send admin an email and it will come through to me (addressed *FAO Miss. Gregory*)! I am really looking forward to working with you and your child this year and helping them reach their full potential!

Miss. Gregory and the Class One Team 😊

