

General Information

- **IMPORTANT DATES:**

- **Year 2 SATS:** throughout the month of May
- **Year 1 National Phonics Screening Test:** during June
- **Year 2 National Phonics Screening Test:** Week beginning November 16th 2020 (This should have taken place June 2020)

- **SCHOOL UNIFORM AND JEWELLERY:**

We are delighted with the number of children who wear school uniform (everybody!) Watches are permitted but we ask that children do not wear any other jewellery.

- **ENTRANCE INTO SCHOOL:**

Children enter their classrooms via the classroom doors. Please observe the one-way system around school and social distancing guidelines.

- **P.E.**

The children need to wear their PE kit to school on their designated PE day:

Owls- Monday

Robins- Friday

Nightingales- Tuesday

PE kit is black shorts, black joggers or leggings, white t-shirt, plimsolls or trainers.

Now that the children are in KS1 we are trying to make them as independent as we can. We strongly encourage the children themselves to take responsibility for their own things.

Class Organisation

There are three classes in KS1, one Year 2 class and two mixed classes consisting of Year 1 and Year 2 children.

Why this organisation?

Classes in KS1 are organised to match the needs of the children as closely as possible. This year we again spent many hours discussing the best possible way to arrange the classes. After a very thorough process the teaching staff still believe the current arrangements to be the best for this cohort of children. This year the Year 2 children will be taught in two groups for English and maths.

How are children placed?

The children are placed according to their maturity, ability and pace of work.

Curriculum for both year groups

As in every other year group in the school, we educate children at their own level within the year group they are currently in. All children work at differing speeds and ability levels; we match this as closely as possible using the National Curriculum guidelines. All children in Years 1 and 2 have equality of opportunity - this is ensured by the four teachers planning their lessons together on a weekly basis, making sure that the children in all three classes are offered the same enriched curriculum.

RWI/English



At Windy Nook we have implemented the 'Read Write Inc' reading program into our school. This is a focused teaching program to encourage children to read and spell at a fast pace working within a group of children who are all generally at the same phonic level of understanding. The children have used RWI throughout their reception year so they are all very familiar with the format and this will also aid a smooth transition into Y1.

In Y1 children move on to the English Strategy for the delivery of their English lessons. As part of their transition this year they will continue with the foundation stage curriculum for the first few weeks of the Autumn term. Daily phonic sessions will continue throughout the year for all Y1 pupils.

Year 2 children will be split into two groups for English (and Maths). Phonics lessons will continue to ensure there are no gaps in their phonic understanding.

Y1 English homework will be a weekly phonics/spellings list, to be practised at home, plus a grammar/punctuation homework book. This will begin in the first few weeks of the Autumn term.

Y2 children will have a weekly spelling list which they are to practise at home and then be tested each week in school. New spellings will be given on Monday and tests will take place the following Monday. Scores will be recorded in blue diaries.

Numeracy

Children in Year One/Two continue to follow the National Numeracy Strategy, which builds upon work completed in the Foundation Stage. Again, for the first few weeks of term Year 1 will follow the foundation curriculum before starting the Year 1 curriculum.

Each session begins counting, number or calculation work then moving onto reasoning tasks and then the main part of the lesson. This work can be supported at home by sharing 'everyday' maths with your child, for example: shopping, measuring, home budgeting, sharing methods of calculations and of course supporting with any homework sent home.

Assessment and Testing

Year 1 Phonic Screening: All children in Year 1 have to undergo a statutory national phonics screening test in June. This is part of our normal phonics assessments so the children will not find it different or unusual.

Year 2 SATS: As you are aware, children in Year Two take national tests in Maths and English in May. Throughout the year, the children are being prepared for these tests through their normal class work to avoid any unnecessary pressure being placed upon pupils.

This year Phonics Screening will take place in November for Year 2 children as it was postponed in the Summer term.

You will be informed of your child's Year 1 or Year 2 test results in their written annual report in July.

Half-termly maths and English assessments take place to provide teachers with an up-to-date picture of progress.

Topics in Other Subjects

The table below includes information on some of the topics to be taught this year:

Autumn 1	<u>Topic theme - 'How life has changed'</u> History themed topic to learn about family life has changed.
Autumn 2	<u>Topic theme - 'Let's Get Creative'</u> Art and crafts themed topic looking at the artist Paul Klee and a textiles topic.
Spring 1	<u>Topic theme - 'King of the Castle'</u> Cross curricular topic based around the events of the Battle of Hastings.
Spring 2	<u>Topic theme - 'How does your garden grow?'</u> The children will be learning how to identify common birds, trees and plants in their gardens and local area.
Summer 1	<u>Topic theme - 'We are Great Britain'</u> Geography themed topic to learn about the 4 nations of the United Kingdom, eg. capital city, the flag, rivers, physical and human features.
Summer 2	<u>Topic theme - 'Our local Area'</u> We will be using our local area to develop children's mapping skills.

Reward Systems & Rules

In KS1 children receive stickers as a reward for all sorts of things eg. correct handwriting, politeness, being helpful, overcoming a challenge etc. Throughout the school we have a house point system. Stickers are put onto their house point chart and at the end of the term and the winning house receives a treat eg. DVD and popcorn, a picnic.

House points are awarded to children in the class, which reward different areas of the curriculum. To develop this further those children who read 3 times a week will receive a house point with those children who read 4 or more times in one week will receive a small reward eg. pencil, eraser etc.

A class assembly will take place each week where children are nominated to receive a certificate for something they have achieved during that week. This could be any subject across the curriculum and demonstrate a positive attitude to their learning.

This system has operated for some years and works very well.

School rules are kept to an absolute minimum. All children at Windy Nook know what is expected of them.

Golden Time - this is a whole school initiative to reward children who demonstrate good behaviour throughout the week. The pupils can choose from a wide variety of activities eg. construction kits, sport, craft, games.

How Can You Help?

Homework is used to support work done in class. Your child will receive homework in line with DfES guidance:

Year 1

MONDAY-FRIDAY: Reading and learning spellings, Maths and English on alternate weeks

Year 2

MONDAY: Daily reading, learning spellings and times tables for test on the following Monday.

Reading comprehension and Maths booklets.

Children will need a bag in school on Monday to bring their reading book and homework folder home and on Friday to bring it back to school. They will not need a bag for the rest of the week. Please note that reading books and blue diaries must be returned to school on Fridays to be quarantined before staff use them on Monday morning.

Homework diaries should be used to record home reading information, spellings and times tables practised. On Monday children will be rewarded for reading the previous week. They will receive a house point for reading at home 3 times and a prize from the reward box for reading 4 times. Teaching staff will read with children in school but this will not be recorded in blue diaries.

If pupils do not return finished homework by Friday then they will complete their homework during Golden Time.

Education at Windy Nook is very much a partnership between home and school. We value your support. As you are aware, you have the opportunity to discuss your own child's progress at Parent Interviews and will receive a report at the end of the year. This term telephone appointments will be arranged in October. Appointments can always be made at a mutually convenient time if you wish to discuss anything with your child's class teacher.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.