## General Information

* **IMPORTANT DATES:**

# Year 2 SATS: throughout the month of May

* + **Year 1 National Phonics Screening Test:** during June

* **Class Organisation**

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

Mrs Preece- KS1 Phase Leader, Bees Maths and English (Year 2)

Mr Reay- Nightingales (Year 2)

Mrs Short- Owls (Year 1/2)

Miss Thompson- Robins (Year 1/2)

Mrs Ferry- PPA

Miss Calam- PPA

Mrs Welsh (Teaching Assistant Nightingales and Interventions)

Miss Jones (Teaching Assistant Owls)

Mrs Collison (Teaching Assistant Robins)

* **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 believe the current arrangements to be the best for this cohort of children. 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 three 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. Children in Owls and Robins move on to the English Strategy for the delivery of their English lessons. A small group of Year 1 children will continue with the foundation stage curriculum at the start of the Autumn term to support their learning. Daily phonic sessions will continue throughout the year. In Nightingales children will continue to reinforce phonics sounds to ensure there are no gaps in their phonic understanding. Some children will be given intervention during the afternoon sessions.

Phonics takes place from 9.00-9.30 so it is important that children are in school on time so that they don’t miss key learning.

* **Numeracy**

Children in Year One/Two continue to follow the National Numeracy Strategy, which builds upon work completed in the Foundation Stage.

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, budgeting pocket money, 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.

Children who did not pass the Phonics Screen in Year 1 will be tested again in June.

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

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:

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| --- | --- |
| **Autumn 1** | Topic theme – ‘Toy Story’ History themed topic to learn about the history of toys. We will be visiting Beamish Museum. |
| **Autumn 2**  | Topic theme - ‘Let’s Get Creative’The focus is Art and DT. We will be exploring the work of artist Paul Klee and designing and making a Christmas stocking. |
| **Spring 1** | Topic theme – ‘King of the Castle’ History themed topic learning about the Battle of Hastings. |
| **Spring 2** | Topic theme - ‘How Does Your Garden Grow?’A Science themed topic focusing on plants and trees around us. We will be designing ad creating a fruit salad. |
| **Summer 1** | Topic theme – ‘Our Local Area’We will be exploring the local area visiting the Nature Park. We will also be visiting St Alban’s church. |
| **Summer 2** | Topic theme -‘We are Great Britain’ Geography themed topic focusing on the British Isles. The children will be learning facts about the countries of Great Britain. |

* **P.E.**

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

Owls- Friday

Robins- Thursday

Nightingales- Wednesday

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.

* **School Uniform and Jewellery**

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

* **Reward Systems & Rules**

School rules are kept to a minimum. All children at Windy Nook know what is expected of them. We are a Rights Respecting School and the children learn their rights and how they affect the rights of others.

In KS1 children receive stickers as a reward for all sorts of things eg. correct handwriting, politeness, being helpful, overcoming a challenge etc.

**House points** are awarded to children in the class, which reward different areas of the curriculum. Stickers are put onto their house point chart and added to a whole school chart each week. At the end of the term the winning house across the school receives a treat eg. DVD and popcorn, a picnic.

**Windy Winners** 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. Children can also be sent to Mrs Forrest for a ‘football’ for achievements throughout the day. You will be notified by text.

**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: Lego construction, Dance, Mindfulness, Art and Crafts and Film Club.

**Golden Table** - Two children from each class are chosen to sit at the Golden Table each Friday. They are chosen for good table manners such as using cutlery, listening to instructions, saying please and thank you, being kind and thoughtful towards others.

* **KS1 Book Shop**

To encourage a love of books and reading we have a bookshop for KS1 every Wednesday. The children can also use this as a savings scheme to help them learn the value of money. A record is made of the money they put into their account and the money they spend. Most books cost £1.00. The books are sold for the price that we buy them.

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* **How Can You Help?**

All children in KS1 are expected to read their reading book at home with an adult on a daily basis. Reading is at the heart of the curriculum and reading regularly increases vocabulary, knowledge and confidence. Reading to your child also benefits them as they will have access to more information and it will develop their understanding of sentence structure and phonology while having fun. Remember, mistakes are part of the learning process and praise will encourage children to want to read.

Homework diaries should be used to record home reading information, spellings and times tables practised. Homework is used to support work done in class. Your child will receive homework in line with DfES guidance. If pupils do not return finished homework by Friday then they will complete their homework during Golden Time with a senior member of staff.

* **Owls and Robins Homework**

Owls and Robins English homeworkwill be a weekly phonics/spellings list, to be practised at home. New spellings will be given on Friday and the children will be tested on the following Friday.

They will have an English homework book and a Maths homework books to complete on alternate weeks. This will begin in the second half of the Autumn term.

* **Nightingales Homework**

Children in Nightingales 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 Friday and the children will be tested on the following Friday. Scores will be recorded in blue diaries. Children have a Reading Comprehension book and a Times Table Maths book. They are expected to complete a page each week at home. This will begin in a few weeks.

Homework will also be given via Google classroom. Your child’s username and password are on the front of their blue reading diary.

**All children will need a bag to be able to bring their blue diary and reading book in every day to school. It will need to be big enough to carry their homework too.**

To encourage independence, children in Nightingales change their own reading books when they have read them at home.

Education at Windy Nook is very much a partnership between home and school. We value your support. Appointments can always be made at a mutually convenient time if you wish to discuss anything with your child’s class teacher. Parent teacher meetings will be organised in October and February.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

KS1 Team

Mrs Preece, Mrs Short, Miss Thompson, Mr Reay

**Book Lists to encourage reading:**

<https://www.thereaderteacher.com/year2>

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks1-school-pupils/suggested-reading-list-year-2-pupils-ks1-age-6-7/>

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks1-school-pupils/suggested-reading-list-year-1-pupils-ks1-age-5-6/>

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/year-1>