



Working together to be the best that we can be

Welcome back to the final half of summer term! We hope that you have had a restful half term break and are ready for all the exciting and challenging opportunities this term will offer!

Information for parents and carers



Your child's reading journey

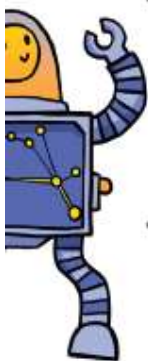
Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

Your child has now learned most of the Year 1 phonics in *Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised* and will soon be preparing for the nationally required Phonics Screening Check, which will take place in June.

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

- The Phonics Screening Check is a quick check of your child's decoding skills.
- Your child will be asked to read 40 words – 20 are real words, 20 are known as 'alien words' (made-up words).

Why do the children read 'alien words'?



- Reading alien words checks children's decoding skills and knowledge of graphemes in a fair way – it mirrors what the children have to do when they read a word that they have not read before.
- Your child will not have seen the alien words before. They will have to use their knowledge of letters and sounds to work out how to read them.

How does the check work?

- Your child will be asked to read 40 words independently.
- The check has been designed to not put your child under stress. It will be carried out by a member of staff who knows your child well.
- It should only take a few minutes to complete, but there is no time limit.

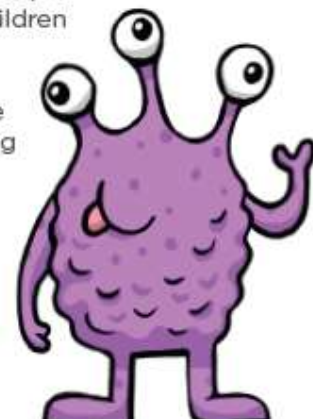
Do I need to do anything to further support my child?

- Continue to listen to your child read their phonics books and read to them daily.
- Your child's teacher will let you know if any additional practice is needed.
- Always ask if you need any further support!



All for the love of reading


- Teaching children the skills of reading will increase their will to read. Children who love reading, choose to read.
- Reading develops children's vocabulary, understanding of the world and empathy.
- A love of reading is the biggest indicator of future academic success! To develop a love reading, children must have the skills to read, which is why we teach them using phonics.



Summer 2 2024 - This half term, Year 1/2 will be learning about the following topics:

<p>English</p>	<p>We will start the term by looking at the text <i>The Great Fire of London</i> by Emma Adams. The children will initially be engaged by exploring London in the present and the past, through the story of the great fire. Children will compare the London of today and the London of 1666, using past and present tense. A sense of audience and purpose is heightened as children write a spiel for a tourism event and write a blurb for the Museum of London's Great Fire exhibit. They explore the cause of the fire and create warning posters in role as King Charles II. Drama will be used throughout to explore the experiences of Londoners during the fire and children will create speech bubbles and diary entries. Children will also role play being in the King's Council and make speeches giving King Charles II advice on what to do to combat the fire. Children will also write certificates to give out to brave Londoners in a royal ceremony. The class will create their own mini-London Museum in class to publish and display their work.</p> <p>We will continue the term by looking at <i>Rosie Revere, Engineer</i> by Andrea Beatty and David Roberts. The children will begin by designing their own suspension/ opening bridges. They then will write a short explanation about how their bridge works, using verbs in their progressive form.</p>
<p>Spellings</p>	<p>We are working very hard in school to strengthen basic skills, but we need your help to boost spellings. We have created a spelling challenge to make this fun and engaging and we are offering a whole host of rewards to motivate and encourage the children to get on board!</p> <p>All that we ask, is that you help your children learn to spell the words on their challenge card. Every time they have secured a section (bronze, silver or gold), staff will check that they have indeed secured the bronze, silver or gold block and the children will receive a certificate and they can begin learning the next set of spellings.</p> <p>We are hopeful that this will be more meaningful than testing spellings weekly and by basing it on high frequency words and words commonly used in their writing, it will be more purposeful as it is being embedded not only in Literacy but across the whole curriculum.</p>
<p>Handwriting and Presentation</p>	<p>Children will have specific handwriting lessons to help them improve their presentation across all subjects. We will focus on letter formation and correctly joining our letters together. Children are reminded on the importance of presentation in all subjects across the curriculum. Please support this by using LetterJoin at home. https://www.letterjoin.co.uk/index.html</p>
<p>Reading Records</p>	<p>The children will bring home a sharing book (free-choice book from the book corner) on Tuesday as well as a banded book. Please read and discuss the books with your child. Parents must record in the reading records at least once a week. Please note that children are required to have their book bag with their reading record inside every day. If the phonics book that your child brings home ends up lost or damaged, parents will need to pay for a replacement.</p>
<p>Phonics</p>	<p>Phonics will be taught every day and this will be consolidated in Literacy and spellings. We will continue to practice for the National Phonics Screening Check, specifically focusing on reading and blending sounds in 'real' and 'nonsense' words.</p> <p>Phonics works best when children are given plenty of encouragement and parents play a very important part in helping with this. There are a range of ways that you can reinforce phonics learning at home, including asking them about the sounds they have been learning and practising these with them, reading regularly with your child and listening to your child read daily, encouraging your child to use their phonic knowledge to sound out unfamiliar words. If you require any further support or guidance on supporting your child with their phonics, please do not hesitate to contact me via Class Dojo.</p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p>We will be learning about statistics including tally charts, pictograms and bar diagrams. We will also look at position and direction. In addition to this, weekly 'Maths Fluency' sessions will ensure that the children's arithmetic skills are being developed to aid rapid recall of number facts and their ability to solve problems. Throughout Year 1/2, we will practice and test their times tables (2, 3, 5 and 10) using Times Table Rock Stars. Please support your</p>

	child with this at home as they have been given their individual login details.
Science	Our science topic this half term is 'Living things and their habitats'. We will explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive. We will learn to identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other. We will also learn to describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food.
Computing	In Computing this term, we will be covering the unit We are Zoologists. The children will go on a bug hunt, recording and identifying the small animals they find. They will organise the data they have collected, record it on a spreadsheet and create charts; as well as add images to a local map linking to our Geography learning last term.
Topic	This term we will begin our new topic, Beside the Seaside . This unit will teach children to compare seaside holidays today to those in the past, using vocabulary related to the past. Throughout the unit we will be focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using historical sources to identify how seaside holidays have changed over time. • Describing a historical seaside holiday using vocabulary related to seaside resorts in the past. • Organising seaside holidays into chronological order. • Explain how seaside holidays now are different to in the past.
Art / Design & Technology	Our focus will be food technology. We will be handling and exploring fruits and vegetables and learning how to identify which category they fall into, before undertaking taste testing to establish their chosen ingredients for the smoothie they will make a design packaging for.
PE	Elm class will continue to have PE on Monday and Thursday. Please ensure that your child/children have the following kit for PE: Black tracksuit bottoms or shorts, a white t-shirt or top and black trainers or plimsolls. Our focus this term will be ball skills.
Music	Oak Class will continue to be taught by our specialist music teacher (Mr Duncan) every Friday. We will continue to incorporate opportunities for singing across the school day.
RE	In RE we will explore how forgiveness is important to people's lives across different religions. We will discuss for example 'what does it mean to say sorry?' 'What can learn from stories about forgiveness?'
PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education)	Our focus this half term will be 'Changing Me'. We will learn about life cycles in nature, growing from young to old as well as our bodies.
RSE	Year 2 will be taught the following (RSHE) topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differences: Boys and Girls - To introduce the concept of male and female and gender stereotypes and to identify differences between males and females • Differences: Male and Female - To explore some of the differences between males and females and to understand how this is part of the lifecycle • Naming the Body Parts - To focus on sexual difference and name body parts
Homework	Each Friday your child will be set weekly literacy and maths tasks for homework based on their learning throughout the week. Homework must be returned by the following Tuesday at the latest. Children in Year 2 should practice their times tables (2, 5 and 10) using TTRS . All pupils should practice their maths skills using Sumdog. Logins are kept in pupils' homework books.
Class Dojo	It is really important that you are linked to Class Dojo. We will update the Class Story with any important information you need to know and contact you via message if there is anything we need to share with you. https://teach.classdojo.com/

<p style="text-align: center;">Other Notices</p>	<p>Summer School Uniform:</p>  <p>Girls Uniform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer Dresses - Red & White or Green & White Gingham • Cardigan*/ Sweatshirt*/V neck sweater - Dark green • Footwear - Black Shoes • Hijabs – White/Dark Green/Black only <p>Boys Uniform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polo shirt – Dark green, bright red or white • Cardigan*/ Sweatshirt*/V neck sweater - Dark green • Trousers/ shorts (knee length) – Grey • Footwear - Black shoes <p>Water bottles – Every child needs their own water bottle with their name on. Please make sure your child attends school with a water bottle every day. These can be refilled at school.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Educational Visit/ Trips</p>	<p>For their end of year visit, the children will be going to the cinema on Wednesday 17th July 2024. More details will be given closer to the time.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Key dates</p>	<p>Monday 10th June 2024 – ART WEEK</p> <p>Monday 10th June 2024 – Y1 Phonics Screening Check Week</p> <p>Monday 24th June 2024 - Windrush mosaic for Windrush Day.</p> <p>Wednesday 3rd July 2024 - Sports Day</p> <p>Friday 5th of July – Poetry recital assembly</p> <p>Friday 12th July 2024 – Summer concert</p> <p>Saturday 13th July 2024 – Summer Fair</p> <p>Tuesday 16th July 2024 – Exercise books to go home</p> <p>Wednesday 17th of July 2024 – Cinema Trip</p> <p>Thursday 25th July 2024 - (Mufti day) – last day of term. School finishes at 1pm. No ASC.</p>

Year 1/2 Team

Elm Class Teacher – Ms Sultana

Teaching Assistants: Ms Bi and Ms Ayres