



# *Welcome to Beech Class!*



*Mrs Thompson*

# Staff

Key Stage 1 TAs

Mrs Khalid, Mrs Goodfellow, Mrs Cerrone and Mrs Hughes

PPA cover – Mrs Nardelli, on a Friday afternoon.

*Please do come and see me if you have any queries. If I can't see you immediately I am more than happy to arrange another time.*

*NB: Staff meeting Wednesday after school*

# Year 1 Expectations

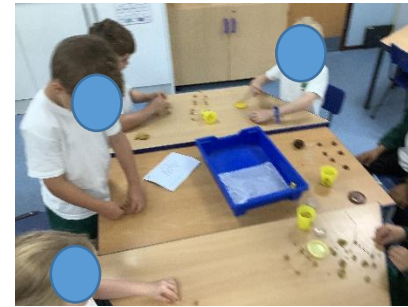
The year 1 children have entered a new phase in their education called Key Stage One. The children are at the start of a more formal style of education. HOWEVER.....

Transition is incredibly important, and there will be some similarities between Acorns and Beech class during the Autumn term.

For transition in Beech Class we are.....

- Following some routines similar to Acorns.
- Having 'Busy Fingers' activities to develop fine motor skills on arrival.
- A mix of adult-led, adult directed and Independent activities.
- Child Initiated Learning, inside and outside.

Children should be beginning to take responsibility for their own learning and behaviour with support from adults.



# *Year 2 Expectations*

- The children have now entered a more formal style of education.
- Children are required to sit for longer inputs every lesson and listening carefully.
- Children expected to work independently on differentiated tasks.
- Children should be beginning to take responsibility for their own learning and behaviour with support from adults.

# Home Learning:



- Given out - Friday via Google Classroom.
- Handed in - Tuesday via Google Classroom.
  
- **Usually (not always) Maths** : Based on that week's learning or sometimes pre-learning for the following week. Should be able to do it in about 20 minutes.
- Let us know if there is a problem.
  
- **Spelling:** Given out on Monday and checked during the following week.
- Based on weekly sounds/spelling patterns, tricky words and High Frequency Words (common words).
- Roughly 8-10 spellings.
- Please try and ensure spelling book is in school daily.

# Spelling:

- Weekly spelling homework will look like this:

## Graphemes

su	dge	y	ge
----	-----	---	----

## Spellings

usual	bridge	crystal	large
treasure	dodge	myth	change

## Tricky words

move	improve	parents	shoe

# *Reading in School*

Across EYFS and KS1, alongside our daily phonics lessons, each child will take part in reading practice sessions whilst they are still on their Little Wandle journey.

Children will be reading in small groups and will read the same book throughout the week with adults in school before bringing it home to read with you.

## Each read in school will have a different focus:

- Decoding
- Prosody- reading with rhythm, stress and intonation
- Comprehension

# Reading at home

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home.

ALL children will be bringing home two different books each week:

A reading practice book - This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child as found by their Little Wandle Placement Assessment. They should be able to read this fluently and independently. When the children read this book with you at home it will be to 'show off' the skills they have learnt so you can see the wonderful progress they are making.

- A sharing book. Your child will not necessarily be able to read this on their own. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together.

# Helping your child with phonics

Make sure you say the phonemes correctly!

Playing games with them and making it as active as possible.

Looking for phonemes around the local environment and in their reading books.

Helping them to blend and segment both real and alien words to help reinforce their learning of digraphs (ay, ai) and trigraphs (igh, air).

- Phonicsplay.co.uk and other online resources are available.

# Phase 2 Sound Mat

 s	 a	 t	 p	 i	 n	 m	 d
 g	 o	 c	 k	 ck	 e	 u	 r
 h	 b	 f	 l	 j	 v	 w	 x
 y	 z	 qu	 th	 sh	 ch	 ng	 nk

## Phase 3 Sound Mat

 ai	 ee	 igh	 oa	 oo	 oo	 ar	 or
 ur	 ow	 oi	 ear	 air	 er		













### Tricky words

is I the put pull full as  
and has his her go no to  
into she push he of we me be














### Tricky words

was you they my by all  
are sure pure

Grow the code grapheme mat Phase 2, 3 and 5

 s ss c se ce st sc	 t tt	 p pp	 n nn kn gn	 m mm mb	 d dd	 g gg	 c k ck cc ch	 r rr wr	 h
 b bb	 f ff ph	 l ll le al	 j jg dge ge	 v vv ve	 w wh	 x	 y	 z zz s se ze	 qu
 ch tch ture	 sh ch ti ssi si ci	 th	 ng	 nk	 a	 e ea	 i y	 o a	 u o-e ou

Grow the code grapheme mat Phase 2, 3 and 5

 ai ay a a-e eigh aigh ey ea	 ee ea e e-e ie y ey	 igh ie i i-e y	 oa o o-e ou oe ow	 oo ue u-e ew ou ui	yoo ue u u-e ew	 oo u oul	 ar a al
 or aw au aur oor al a oar ore	 ur er ir or	 ow ou	 oi oy	 ear ere eer	 air are ere ear	zh su si	

\*Depending on regional accents

# *Handwriting*

- Year 1 children are taught how to form their letters correctly and consistently.
- Year 2 will be taught how to join their letters.

Handwriting is taught consistently across the whole school.

# Google Classroom



Your child has an online 'Google Classroom' where there will be parent information, resources and where you will find the home learning.

Your child has a login and password, which will be sent home soon in their reading records.

Year 2's passwords will remain the same as last year.

I aim to put a reference section for parents to access things like:

- Common exception words,
- Sound mats,
- Maths vocabulary/maths dictionary for parents
- Handwriting paper / letter formation

# *Year 1 Assessments*

- Phonics screening for year 1 children will take place in the week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026.
- Ongoing assessment for phonics - segmenting/blending and reading.
- Nonsense words are used to assess children's reading. For example 'alien words'.

# Year 2 Assessments

- If your child did not pass the phonics screening in Year 1, they will re-sit in the same week as Year 1 (week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026).
- Teacher assessment - informs planning.



# *A 'growth mind-set' classroom*

- **Teachers' expectations high** for all children.
- **Ongoing assessment** with pre-assessments, review and analysis used consistently
- **Challenging opportunities** provided where children are ready
- Opportunities for children to **self-assess** and **peer assess**
- **Flexible/ fluid** grouping
- **Challenge / making mistakes** - 'have a go' part of being inquisitive, problem solving, reflecting, evaluating and learning.

# *How you can help*

- Reading daily and discussing the text
- Completing homework tasks - to the best of their abilities
- Ensuring that your child forms letters correctly.
- Daily practice of number facts e.g. number bonds
- Help with learning spellings
- Ensuring children take responsibility for their learning and actions
- Supporting teachers' expectations, including smart school uniform which is labelled please.

# Trips, visits and workshops

These are enriching and enjoyable activities that really do enhance learning in the classroom. However, we recognise that they can be expensive and that not everyone may be able to afford them.

Some events are funded by the PTA. For other events, parents make a contribution on a voluntary basis. In the past, we have been able to subsidise the cost where parents have not made contributions. However, due to the tight funds of the school, even if just one person does not contribute, we may have to cancel the event.

If you find yourself unable to pay for a trip/workshop, please come and talk to us, as we may be able to support with alternative funding. We know that times are tight for some and payments can come at the wrong moments.

Trips, visits and workshops also depend on having enough volunteers. We would like to invite you to one of our termly Oakwood Parent Volunteer Briefings, so that you can come in and volunteer at any time.

Thank you!



# Smartphone Free Childhood



Following an overwhelming response to our parent survey last term, Oakwood have made some changes to support a Smartphone Free childhood.

## Reminders:

- Children are not permitted to bring Smartphones to school (children who walk to or from school alone may bring a "dumb" phone)
- Adult Smartphones must be switched off and in bags/pockets during all school events including plays, assemblies, sports days, school visits etc.

# *Try some of these...*

- <http://www.ictgames.co.uk/>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/numbertime/games/>
- <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-tocount/teddy-numbers>
- <http://www.crickweb.co.uk/Early-Years.html>
- <http://www.naturedetectives.org.uk/>

# *Other Information*

- Please let us know if your child is going home with another adult.
- PE will be on Monday and Wednesday - **children to come in to school in their kit.**
- Please make sure that all of your children's belongings are labelled.
- Remember whole school newsletters are sent electronically.
- Please remember to check the window for messages.

*Any questions?*

