



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back everyone! I hope you have all enjoyed your summer. It is lovely to see the children back at school looking smart and settling in so well.

Our whole school topic this term is 'How far and wide are connected?'. To start the term, we are focusing on 'All about me'. It has been lovely hearing the children talk confidently about themselves.

### Reading FS and Y1

Reading is an essential part of children's learning and development as it underpins writing and comprehension. Therefore children are expected to **read 5 times a week** to an adult and we request that this is **recorded in their reading record**. Reading records are checked every day and all children who have read five or more times are recognised as a star reader. When they have read 10 times they will receive a reading reward.

Reading to your child will improve their vocabulary, understanding of texts and build their confidence when reading and writing. Please remember to discuss the story with your child and ask questions about what they have read. Year one are expected to change their own reading books, adults will be around to support this. Foundation children will be given reading books this week. There is a reading and phonics workshop for FS parents on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 3:00pm.**

### Year 1 Homework

This half term children will be given a letter formation book to practise with. It is imperative that children are forming letters correctly, starting and finishing in the right place. It is harder to break bad habits later on! Forming letters correctly is a key objective in year one and will support the transition into cursive writing. Each week, we would like your child to practise their letter formation not only in the booklet but also write a sentence ensuring that letters are kept on the line and at the same size. The sentence can be about anything. Handwriting books will be **checked each Friday.**

### Year 2 Homework

Either a maths or an English based activity will be given out weekly on a Friday. It is due in the following **Thursday** when it will be checked. In addition to this, other topic based homework may be given out.





### Website



Each week the school website is updated with school letters and a class blog. It is a fantastic way for you to see what we have been up to in class and across the school, so please take advantage of this. I know that a lot of the time the children are so tired by the time they get home, they do not feel like talking!



We would also like to take this opportunity to express that our doors are always open if you have any concerns or would like to know your child's progress, strengths, areas to support etc, please pop in after school or arrange a meeting. We firmly believe that children can reach their full potential when parents/carers and teachers work in partnership.



Best wishes



Natalie Perry and Helen Illingworth

