

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child to Lamorna Class and tell you a bit about what to expect this year. Some of the information you probably already know but it is just to recap and to help answer any queries you might have.

**Year 1 Phonics Screening Test**

This will take place in June 2023 for all Year 1 children.This will take place in our school setting and will be administered by staff familiar to the children, to give them every opportunity to do their best. Children who do not meet the expected score of 32/40 in this check will have the opportunity to complete it again next year. We will be teaching phonics daily to support the children in this. If you have any questions about this and how you are able to support your child at home, please contact Mrs Miles.

**Reading**

At school your child will have an individual reading book which will be changed once they have fully explored it with you at home. We are starting a new phonics scheme this year, Read, Write, Inc. Once your child has been assessed they will be bringing home a reading book which is well matched to the sounds which they have learned in school.

We expect parents to write the title of the book into their record book, write which pages they have read at home and add a comment. It helps your child’s reading progress if you can hear them read their reading book every day at home. Sometimes they will get the opportunity to read this book to an adult in school. We will also have the opportunity to spend time in our new library every week and the children will be able to choose a book they would like to bring home to share with you. Our library day is usually a Thursday. Please ensure you and your child take care of our school books as we will be asking for the cost of any lost or damaged books.

**Other Routines and Information**

• At the beginning of the day, children will be expected to come in to class independently, hang up their coats and bags and engage with the table activities

 • Reading books and reading records need to be taken home and brought to school every day.

• Children must bring in their own named water bottle as it is more hygienic for children to have their own bottle. They will need to be taken home each night.

• Please remember to label all your child’s clothes. They are responsible for looking after their own belongings including jumpers!

• PE kits: we will be having PE on a Wednesday afternoon. We expect all children to change into a full school PE kit for these sessions. If possible, please can you provide shoes with Velcro fastenings as they are easier for the children to put on themselves. PE kits can be left in school and will be sent home at the end of each half term.

• Ms Lewis will be covering for music and Mrs Amy Capon will be covering for PE on Wednesday afternoons.

**Working Together**

We believe children make the best progress and are happiest at school when parents, teachers and teaching assistants work together. As much as it is helpful to catch up at the end of each day this is not always possible. We are always contactable via email or on the phone and we will contact you as soon as we are available to answer your questions or concerns or to arrange an appointment. We are very excited about this year and the learning we have planned, and we hope your child is too. Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any more questions.

Yours faithfully,

 Sian Miles

smiles@rainbowacademy.org.uk