



15<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is a summary of the information given at the parents' meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> September. We hope this will be helpful. If you were unable to attend and require more information, please speak to your child's class teacher or email us at [year2@onslow.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:year2@onslow.surrey.sch.uk).

### 1. Projects

Projects this year will be:

**Autumn** Into the Dark

**Spring** Explorers

**Summer** Through the Eyes of a Book

### 2. Reading and Phonics

Phonics is streamed across the school so your child may move to a different classroom for their learning. This is so that we can ensure each child is receiving specific and targeted learning to meet their ability. They will be reading every day in their phonics sessions and will take home a copy of their book after the third read. Your child should be able to read this book with ease and expression. Please note, the RWI phonic scheme book band colours are not the same as the reading for pleasure book band colours.

In Year 2, each pupil has a Reading Partner. This will be one of their peers who they work with in guided reading. With their Reading Partner, they take turns to read and support each other to answer comprehension questions. We encourage lots of informal book talk and develop the children's confidence to answer written comprehension questions.

As well as hearing children read within phonics lessons and guided reading, we will aim to read with each child individually across a fortnight. We prioritise those children who need extra fluency practice.

Reading at home every day will really benefit your child so please try and set aside a time that suits your family to snuggle up with a book and read a few pages. If you would like any strategies to support your child's reading at home, then please ask the class teacher or come to the reading workshop later in the term. There is space inside the Reading Records for comments about your child's reading - e.g. whether they are sounding out new words, using punctuation, reading with expression, able to answer questions on the text, etc. If you don't make a comment just initial to show you've heard them read. This should enable us to work more closely together with you to support your child with their reading.

In Year 2, children take the responsibility of changing their books independently. We really encourage children to re-read their book (until they start to read chapter books) before they change their book.

We visit the school library every Friday. As the children choose their own library books, the degree of difficulty of these books may vary. Please value and support your child in their choice and ensure that the book is returned to school on your child's library day.

### 3. Maths

We use White Rose Maths to plan and teach mathematics. The children are taught a new concept as a class and then work on a range of practical and formal number problems either independently or with adult support.

Any number games that you can play at home that encourage mental maths would benefit your child's development. Keeping it fun is the main objective. It would be very helpful for you to allow your child to have experiences with money, capacity, weight and time as they occur in the real world. This enables them to see a practical use for number outside school and familiarises them with the related vocabulary.

### 4. Homework

#### Reading

Children will bring home a RWI phonics book, as well as a reading for pleasure book. Please do read both books with them. Re-reading books has been shown to increase fluency and comprehension so do re-read both books if possible.

#### Maths

In addition to daily reading, we will send out maths homework each Wednesday for completion by the following Tuesday. This will mostly be set on Purple Mash. Maths homework will practise place value, general arithmetic and key number skills and will link to what the children have been learning about each week. This will help you to know how to best support your child at home. You will need your child's Purple Mash login. This should be in their Reading Record – please let your class teacher know if you cannot find it.

#### Spelling and Handwriting

We will send home handwriting homework every Wednesday. This will also allow children to practise key spelling words that they need to learn. This needs to be returned by Monday the following week. If your child struggles with spellings, you can also try practising writing the words or in more creative ways such as writing in foam, sand or using fridge magnets; it all helps!

On occasions, we may also set additional homework on Purple Mash as and when we feel it will support our learning in school.

Please remember that your child will have been working hard all day so may not be able to focus on homework – don't worry, try again another time, little and often with lots of praise for effort is often better than trying to do it all in one go.

### 5. PE and Woodland

PE is currently on **Wednesday** and the occasional **Friday** afternoons. Please do ensure all kit is named, including plimsoles. We only allow children to wear small stud earrings (not hoops) in school but these should not be worn on P.E. days. We are not allowed to take earrings out for children, nor can they be taped over. Children with earrings left in on PE days will not be allowed to take part. Please ensure that if your child has long hair (hair below the top of their shoulder), it is always tied back.

Year 2 have their Woodland session every Wednesday. Each child needs a named raincoat, wellies, joggers and spare socks in school for this.

## 6. Parents' Evenings

There will be one parents' evening each term:-

**Autumn Term** - an opportunity to discuss how children have settled in their new class.

**Spring Term** - an opportunity to look at your child's work, and discuss your children's targets for the following term.

## 7. Achievements

We like to celebrate your children's achievements both in and out of school. If your child gains an award from an out of school club, e.g. swimming or gym, or meets a difficult challenge, please could they bring their certificate or a photograph of their achievement into school for them to share in assembly which will usually take place on a Friday.

## 8. Class Mascot and Diary

Each week, a different child will still get to bring the class mascot home for the weekend to celebrate being Star of the Week. The mascot will be in a golden Onslow infant School bag with three special books. Rather than filling in a diary with pictures and writing, we'd love your child to read the books with their mascot. They could try to read them independently or you could read the books with them. We'd love them to enjoy reading and sharing stories with their families and the class mascot. If you would like, we'd love to see a photograph on Tapestry of your child reading with the special books so we can share with the class on a Monday. Please bring the mascot and the books back in the golden bag on Mondays.

## 9. Parental Help and Support

Donations to the class fund of 50p a week are greatly appreciated to help us buy resources. This will be collected on the classroom doors on Monday mornings if you are able to contribute.

Parental help is also greatly appreciated in school. If you are able to spare any time to support interventions such as Reading Rockets or in the library, please inform the office.

Thank you so much for your support. We aim to create a fun and stimulating year for your children!

Yours sincerely,

<b>Otter Class</b>	<b>Squirrel Class</b>
Mrs Dockett (Class teacher, Mon – Weds)	Mrs Barton (Class teacher)
Mrs Altarafi - Bennett (Class teacher Thurs/Fri)	Mrs McGowan (Teaching Assistant Mon - Weds)
Mr Costley (Teaching Assistant)	Mrs Scarlett (Higher level teaching assistant, Thurs/Fri)