







Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break and enjoyed some of that beautiful sunshine! The children have returned with big smiles and bags of enthusiasm, and we're excited for the fun and learning ahead. This term, we're heading off on an adventure to Australia – through poetry, painting, geography, and more! In English, we're exploring a brilliant poetry book *Kangaroo's Hop* and *Wombat Goes Walkabout*. Children will be learning to describe how animals move using exciting verbs and adjectives, and they'll finish the unit by writing their own Australian animal poem to entertain their friends. In Maths, we're diving into mass, volume, and capacity, using hands-on resources to explore weight, compare objects, and investigate how much containers can hold. We'll also start to introduce multiplication and division through real-life problem solving.

You can support your child's learning at home with some simple, fun activities:

- Explore nature together – spot seasonal changes or grow cress and talk about what plants need.
- Use a kitchen scale or some building blocks to compare which toys or foods are heavier or lighter/longer or shorter.
- Make bath time playful by exploring full, empty, and half-full containers!
- Read poems aloud and make up your own animal action rhymes together – silly voices encouraged!
- Let your child practise typing short messages or sentences on a phone, tablet, or computer to build confidence with digital writing.
- Look up Australia on a map, explore the different weather, and chat about the amazing animals that live there.

It's shaping up to be a busy and brilliant term – thank you as always for your continued support!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Orangutan Class	Chloe 	Chloe 	Chloe 	Hannah AM & PM 	Chloe 

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Giraffe Class	Lee	Lee	Lee	Lee AM Silvia PM 	Lee

Dates for your diary:

Bank Holiday (school not open)	Monday 5 th May
School photos	Friday 9 th May Leavers and Class Photos
Land event	Wednesday 14 th May 2:45 – 3:15
Last day of Term 5	Friday 23 rd May

Reading Books

Every Friday, your child's phonics book will be changed. Please continue to record your reading sessions in their reading record.

In class, children participate in guided reading lessons in small groups and have multiple opportunities to read with adults throughout the week. Additionally, we will be offering children the chance to bring home a *Reading for Pleasure* book.

We kindly ask that you take care of these books and return them, along with the phonics book, each Friday for a new selection.

Phonics books: This book will be carefully selected to align with your child's phonic knowledge. They will have a week to immerse themselves in the text, secure their phonics skills, enhance fluency, grasp the narrative, and expand their vocabulary. Follow this link to learn more about reading at home. [Phonics - Oxford Owl for Home](#)

Reading for Pleasure books: These books are best enjoyed alongside an adult or sibling. Children flourish when engaged in shared reading experiences with adults or older siblings, as they delve into captivating stories and uncover new vocabulary. Additionally, these interactions enable them to recognise familiar sounds and conquer challenging words. Exposing your child to the joy of reading through familial bonding moments fosters a genuine passion for literature.

Home time

Please **avoid coming into the classrooms at the end of the day** as if there are lots of adults around the doorway/classroom it can become tricky to know the whereabouts of the children. We want to keep everyone safe at all times right until they are in the safe hands of their adult.

General information:



Show and tell – as we begin a steady transition into Year 2, show and tell will now be on a **Thursday afternoon only**. This means that if the children bring something in on any other of those days, we will give it back to you at the classroom door or keep it safe in the cupboard until the end of the day. The children can of course share their items as normal until we have shared this information with them.



A reminder that children should only be eating fruit or vegetable/healthy snacks at snack time. Croissants, chocolate, and crisps are not a healthy snack and should be saved for afterschool or lunchtime. We have plenty of fruit at school that we offer the children every day.

Communication:

- Class Dojo is the easiest way to contact us, and we can call you back if you send a message. We aim to reply to Class Dojo messages within 2 working days.
- Please don't use Dojo for emergency messages as we cannot check them while teaching or in meetings. Continue to call the office for emergency messages.
- A member of the Year 1 team will be available at the class door at 3.25pm every day. We are happy to catch up for an informal chat then and can arrange a meeting for longer conversations – we will aim to arrange meetings within a week.
- The school website will be updated termly to share topic maps, spelling lists and any additional resources that can support learning at home.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions.

Kind Regards,

Chloe and Lee

