

29th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 1 and Reception,

I hope this finds you safe and well. Firstly, I would like to say how proud I am of Year 1s work ethic over the last few weeks. They should be very proud of everything they are doing. I hear that this morning the call with Mrs Lucas was really exciting! I'm also going to try and join you all for phonics disco next week!

Now both staff and pupils have found a natural rhythm with remote learning and having listened to feedback we are delighted to be able to extend our 'Live' teaching to 2 calls a day. In EYFS and Year 1 we know that remote learning and spending time on screen is perhaps more challenging than for other year groups. With this in mind we will be keeping up the recorded sessions for phonics and one daily call a day but will also offer a book talk session each day. This will include the children in school too and will be a nice social gathering as well as an opportunity to focus on reading skills, comprehension and a love of reading.

Calls for Year 1 and Reception will take place at the following times from Monday 1st February

	First Daily Call for Year 1	First Daily Call for Reception	Second Daily Call – optional Book Talk session
Monday	11.00 – 11.25am	11.50 – 12.10	2.30 – 2.50pm
Tuesday	11.00 – 11.25am	11.50 – 12.10	2.30 – 2.50pm
Wednesday	11.00 – 11.25am	11.50 – 12.10	2.30 – 2.50pm
Thursday	11.00 – 11.25am	11.50 – 12.10	2.30 – 2.50pm
Friday	11.00 – 11.25am	11.50 – 12.10	

As always, we understand that not all children will be able to attend all Live calls. We also understand that more Live calls won't suit all families and children's contexts. Please just let the class teachers know if this is the case. As always you will know what is best for your child however we hope by extending our offer it will help support the children more at home. Children don't need to come to the optional call if it doesn't suit you. One day it may not be appropriate and will be based on the needs of your child.

You will notice that on a Friday there will continue to only be one call. This is to allow staff time to plan for the following week.

We have worked hard to ensure that in most cases calls don't clash with siblings. We believe we have managed to be able to do this, but at any time if this is not the case we apologise. I'm sure you can understand the logistics of organising calls across many classrooms!

I have also reattached our Home school Teams agreement. Please do make sure you are familiar with this.

If at any time, as a parent, you need to get in touch with a class teacher could I urge you to use the private channels. Staff will always try to answer as soon as they can but this may not always be immediately. Please understand that staff are now working around increased calls, working alongside our critical worker children, planning and marking in challenging circumstances.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Lucas, Mr Foster, Mrs Wood, Mrs Newton and Mrs Pritchard for all their hard work with Reception and Year 1 and I know you would echo this thanks.

Please do have a pleasant weekend.

Yours Sincerely



Mrs G Smith
Head Teacher