



Church Lane  
Hambledon  
Waterlooville  
Hampshire  
PO7 4RT  
Telephone: 023 92 632440  
Fax: 023 9263 2013

Email: [adminoffice@hambledon.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@hambledon.hants.sch.uk)

Website: [www.hambledon.hants.sch.uk](http://www.hambledon.hants.sch.uk)

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Dear Parents

Now we are in Year 2 we will be working towards raising your child's independence within our classroom.

### Reading

Your child is given many opportunities to change their books each day. They are able to do this as soon as they come in to school, during our daily guided reading sessions and at the end of the day. We will be expecting them to take responsibility for changing their own books; however an adult will check this is happening twice a week during guided reading and on a Thursday afternoon.

Please continue to read with your child **three times a week** and record it in their reading diaries. Your child will receive a house point if they manage to read three times.

### Book bags

Please can you ensure your child has a named school book bag. There is not enough room in our classroom to hang **rucksacks** on their pegs especially as the children start to bring winter coats.

### Wow work

We will now be having half termly homework. It will consist of more project type activities so that the children have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of our topic with you. It will be given out in the learning log at the beginning of each half term and the children will have approximately 3-4 weeks to complete it. Work will then be displayed on our wow wall.

## Spellings

During our phonics and handwriting sessions we are now going to be concentrating on spelling patterns and families. We will be sending home a grid of keywords so that you can continue to practice. Choose a few at a time to focus on. When you are practising at home keep it fun and try:

- ☺ Writing them on flash cards and playing games like 'Snap' or 'Fish' or 'Matching Pairs'.
- ☺ Writing them down in coloured pens.
- ☺ Using magnetic letters.
- ☺ Spot them in the books you read.
- ☺ Writing them in silly sentences.
- ☺ Timing yourself. How many can you write in a minute? Can you beat your score?
- ☺ Use them when writing a story

## PE kits

Our PE days will be Thursday and Friday this year, however please can you ensure a named kit is in school **every day**. As the weather turns cooler your child will also need a tracksuit and a pair of trainers so that we can continue to do PE outside.

Thank you for your continuing support

Mrs Sansom and Mrs McLauchlan