

Moving on to Year 1

Children are now at the end of their Foundation Stage year at Clewer Green. We were in the process of building up their learning throughout the year when school closed in March. We are however acutely aware of the anxieties some children may have about going to a new class in September.

For this reason – this year the children will be coming back to their previous familiar classroom and teachers for the first week of term. It will be our priority at that stage to iron out any concerns and ensure that they are ALL positively ready for their next step – which is without doubt one of the biggest jumps they will have to make.

SO WHAT WILL BE DIFFERENT?

- The main difference is that the children will be expected to work **INDEPENDENTLY**. There will be support but all children will be doing the same thing at the same time and will be expected to get on.
- Every morning they will have Maths and Literacy and the afternoons will be more creative. Normally on Friday they will have “Golden Time” which is their free choosing time.
- In general teaching styles are more **FORMAL**. Due to current circumstances we will however be adapting the learning to ease the transition even further. There will still be lots of practical activities, which is important for their education.
- The day is slightly different as the children will have a morning play and will also have a short break in the afternoon. Lunchtime is for the same amount of time as Foundation Stage.
- The children will gradually start to be given things to do at home. These will be mainly literacy based and will be a continuation of phonics learned in Foundation Stage. It may include real words, alien words and the formation of sentences. Just as in FS it is not compulsory, but we always see a marked difference in those children who continue their learning at home. Reading continues to be of great importance and it is vital that your child reads every day.
- Phonics screening. In the summer term there will be the government phonics screening assessment. This is a word reading based task completed on a 1:1 with no time limit. Children will need to be really secure with their phonic sounds and be able to use them in both real and alien words. This will in turn benefit their writing too.
- As always please do ask if there is anything that concerns you.

FINALLY PLEASE DO NOT GET ANXIOUS ABOUT YOUR CHILD MOVING UP TO THE NEXT YEAR AS IF YOU ARE WORRIED THE CHILDREN WILL PICK UP ON IT TOO.

THEY WILL BE FINE!