



Talavera Junior School

Pangolins



We are incredibly excited to welcome back Pangolins for the start of another busy academic year. This year, we have many exciting activities planned—from trips and swimming to cultural days and house events. For all our children in Pangolins, we hope to provide a fun and safe learning environment that provides them with the opportunities to excel and progress physically, academically, socially and emotionally.

Key dates

Thursday 4th September - First day of school

W/C 15th September - House Teams launch week

W/C 15th September - Clubs begin

Tuesday 23rd September— Year 3/4 Pangolins Legoland Trip

Wednesday 24th September - Flu Vaccination (Parental opt-in required)

Friday 26th September - Charity Bake Sale after school

Thursday 2nd October - Poetry Day

Friday 3rd October— Year 5/6 Pangolins Chessington World of Adventures Trip

W/C 6th October - National Library Week and Aldershot Library trip

Friday 10th October - Fijian Day

Friday 17th October - Harvest Assembly (food donations welcome)

Friday 17th October - House event: Cross country

W/C 20th October - IEP/ EHCP drop-ins for parents

Thursday 23rd October - Last day before half-term

Friday 24th October - INSET day

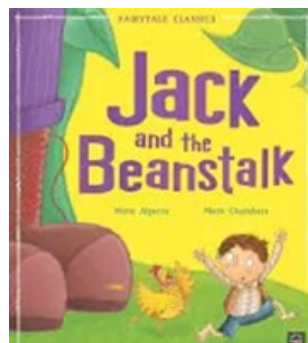
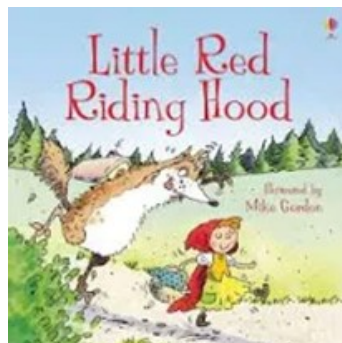
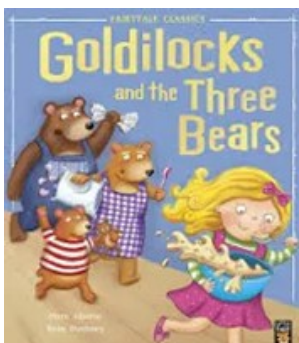
ATTENDANCE:

100%

Throughout the year, Pangolins is full to the brim with a range of exciting learning opportunities.

For this reason, attendance throughout the year is vital. We understand that there are times when children are poorly but, as a school, we aim for attendance to be above 97%. For children in Pangolins, for the best outcomes consistency is imperative.

This year, we will continue to take a continuous provision approach to all our learning. Through doing this, we are provided with the opportunity to explore key texts and link these to all areas of our learning. Throughout this half-term, we are going to be exploring traditional tales.



Backpacks

Parents, following our communication in July, please be advised that children should not have backpacks.

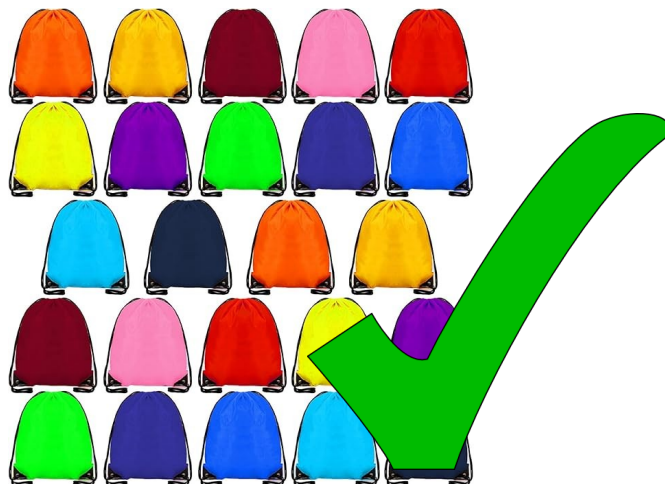
This is due to a lack of space in the school now that we have 510 pupils.

Instead, pupils should bring their lunch, water bottle and reading record/ book in a **drawstring bag**.

Pupils should also have a drawstring bag for their PE kit.

We also will not have keyrings or similar items which hang from bags. We cannot, unfortunately, assure that these are kept safe. We have had items go missing previously which is distressing for children.

The school has a small supply of drawstring bags which we can sell for 50p. Please be advised that we do not make a profit from this.



In Pangolins, we do not send home specific reading books other than the books your child has selected from the school library. We do, however, ask that you encourage and engage with reading at home with your child as often as possible whether this be at night time before they go to bed, when reading a recipe in the kitchen or even reading the bus timetable when you are off on an adventure.

This year, we have a whole school focus on reading for pleasure. Please remember: children are free to borrow books from our in-school library or using the SORA app run by Hampshire library service that the school has paid the subscription for. On this platform, children can borrow a range of books including comics and audio books. Please also remember that it is free to sign up to Aldershot library where children can borrow additional books. Below are some books which are linked to our learning this half-term which your child may enjoy; many of these are available on SORA.

In order to take books out from our school library regularly, it is important that your child remembers to bring back their book each week to either swap or renew it.

We are increasingly concerned about the impact of smartphones on our children, in-line with many other schools in Hampshire. Acknowledging the alarming amount of evidence and research about the negative effects of smartphones and social media, we are committing to making Hampshire primary schools smartphone free.

Please note that your child will not be permitted to have a smartphone in school, regardless of their transport home. "Brick" phones without internet connectivity may be accepted on a case-by-case basis.

In addition, we ask for your support in making the school mobile phone free in general. We had a huge and positive response from children following No Mobile May; we want to continue this opportunity to greet your child with a smile. Thank you for your support in this.

Online Safety in school:

Each half-term, Pangolins will have an Online Safety lesson. This half-term, we will be learning about digital citizenship and how to use digital devices safely online.

Online Safety at home

We know that it can be difficult to keep up with the most recent trends online and how to protect children. We try to share the most up-to-date information that we have as schools. However, some key tips can form the foundation of keeping your child safe online:

- *Check your child's devices to monitor their usage
- *Limit screen time, particularly before bed
- *Talk regularly and openly about being safe
- *Hold your child to account for their language

Morning Snack and Packed Lunches

We recommend that your child has a mid-morning snack at break time to ensure they can learn effectively. Without this, children's energy levels can drop noticeably, resulting in reduced concentration.

In line with our healthy school policy, this snack should be a piece of fruit or vegetable. Cereal bars (that do not contain yogurt or chocolate coating) and healthy oat-based snacks are also allowed.

These snacks and packed lunches must not contain nuts.

Packed lunches must also be healthy. If you are struggling, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Talavera Smart uniform reminders:

We know the impact that pride in our uniform has on the pupils' learning attitude. We ask for your support in ensuring that children are Talavera Smart by ensuring they are in the correct uniform each day.

Please see below some key reminders:

- Children are only permitted to wear one pair of earrings **which must be studs**. These must be removed or covered with tape provided on PE days.



- Children should be wearing black school trousers/skirt/ dress daily. **Leggings and jogging bottoms are not permitted.**
- Children should wear a white polo shirt which is different from their PE top.
- Nail polish and temporary tattoos must be removed before coming to school.
 - Hair which is shoulder length or longer must be tied up.
- A red cardigan or jumper should be worn in school. **Hoodies are not part of the uniform policy.**
- Your child needs to wear plain, black shoes. Please see some examples below. Contact us if you're not sure.
- For PE, your child should have either the Talavera PE top or a red/ white plain t-shirt, black shorts or leggings and suitable trainers.



If you are experiencing any difficulty providing your child with suitable uniform, do not hesitate to speak to Mrs Harman-Box or the office as we will do all we can to support you. **Please remember: second hand uniform is available all year round on request from reception. We will also continue to accept and be grateful for any donations of school uniform all year round at reception including shoes and trainers.**

Physical Education:

P.E. is a vital part of our curriculum, a government requirement and a subject our children enjoy. However, to ensure children are able to fully participate, it is vital that children remember their PE kit. Although we understand some children wear their P.E. kit to clubs, their kit should be in school **every day**. Children should bring their kit in on Mondays and take them home to be washed on Fridays.

Our PE days are Tuesday and Wednesday

School Lunches

Your child will have the option of ordering a school dinner or bringing in a healthy pack lunch. Payments for school dinners will need to be made on your child's Arbor account which will be set up shortly after your child's first day.

If you wish to explore the menu on offer, please scan the QR code which will direct you to the Hampshire website.



Payments, Permissions and Clubs

Please ensure you have checked that your Arbor account is working and all details on your child's account are up-to-date.

It is here that you will be able to pay for school dinners, trips and extra-curricular activities (except for our after-school wraparound care which is run by Koosa, an external business).

If you have any issues or questions regarding your child's Arbor account, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff at the office.

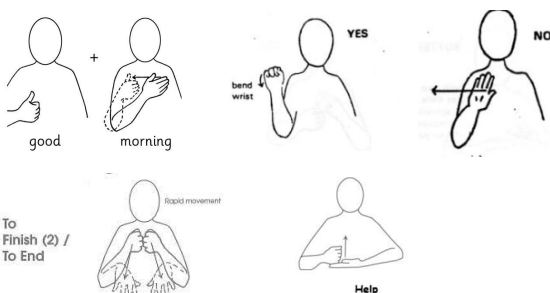
Arbor is our main source of communications and will be how all letters will be sent out.

In Pangolins, we go out of school on regular social skills trips. I kindly ask that you check your permissions on Arbor and, if happy to do so, have consented to local visits. As well as this, we do regular food tasting as part of our learning. We therefore ask that you keep us up to date with changes in dietary requirements and again, if happy to do so, consent to food tasting.



Communication

Makaton is a fantastic resource that can be used by anyone. Makaton is a unique communication programme that uses symbols (pictures), signs (gestures) and speech to enable people to communicate. It supports the development of essential communication skills such as attention and listening, comprehension, memory, recall and organisation of language and expression. Being able to communicate is one of the most important skills we need in life. With Makaton, signs are used, with speech, in spoken word order. This helps provide extra clues about what someone is saying. Below are some of the key signs we use in the day. Can you use any of them at home with your children?



NANA

NANA is the Nepalese Additional Needs Awareness (NANA) charity. Their aim is to remove cultural and language barriers that obstruct education and support of children with additional needs within the Nepali community in Rushmoor and surrounding areas. They aim to do this through raising awareness, engaging with schools, providing information and training opportunities.

The charity provides support for families and children who have Autism and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

If you would like to contact the charity, please use the email provided nana.org2023@gmail.com

They can also be found on Facebook.

As a community, it is important to come together and support our children and families.

