

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back - or welcome! - to the 2025-26 academic year. We know that we are in for an exciting year. The staff are all ready and raring to go, ready to make every learning minute count.

We send out a newsletter each month. Please use these as your first port of call for information but don't hesitate to call or email us (office@talaverajunior.co.uk) if you need anything.

We are proud to serve our community and look forward to working with you to help your child achieve their best.

Best wishes, Mrs Harman-Box & Mrs Webb



Our School Team: Please see our school team below to help you find the right person to talk to if you would like any support. We are passionate about working closely with you.

Mrs Harman-Box	Mrs Webb
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SEND provision	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Mrs Embleton-Horner	Miss Coombs	Miss Burnett	Miss Carter	Miss Heaton/ Miss Mead
Mrs Embleton-Horner/ Mrs Tichbon	Miss Saunders Mrs Keon	Miss Burnett Mrs Subba	Miss Carter Mrs Hamed	Mrs Heaton/ Mrs Winter Mrs McHale Mrs Thomas
Mrs Barton Mrs Charlton Mrs Balch Miss Scotts	Miss Williams Miss Hewett	Miss Khan Mrs Robinson	Miss Coomasaru Mrs Cluness Mrs Hatton Mrs Cataki	Miss Mead Mrs Geere
	Miss Ainsworth Mrs Shackleton Miss West	Mr Marsh Mrs Steel Miss Hemming	Mrs Smith-Wright Mrs Ross Mr Horner/ Mrs Short	Mrs Cooke Miss Worsick
	Mr Willcocks Mrs Opoku	Miss Causer Miss Cummins Mrs Mayurun	Miss Dunsdon Miss Carden	Miss Bremner Mrs Swanepoel
	Miss Baylis Mrs Armit			
	Across school support: Miss Huntingford and Miss West			

Office staff: Mrs Wilson, Mrs Kirkham-Wingate, Miss Wheeler & Mrs Long	Caretaker: Mr Hardy	Other teaching staff: Mrs Howard, Mr Bostock & Mr Hutson
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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.



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.

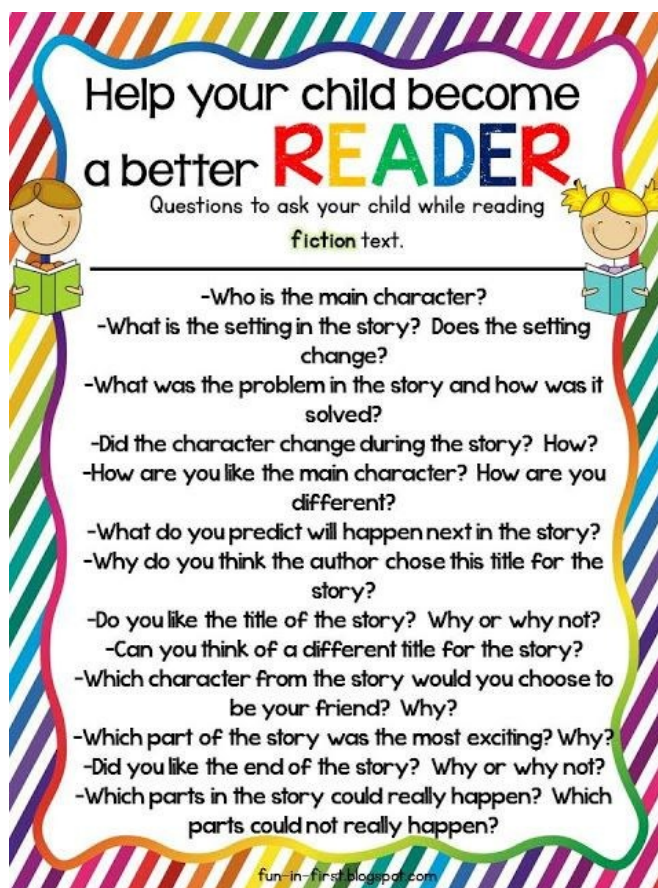
In addition, we ask for your support in making the school mobile phone free in general.

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.


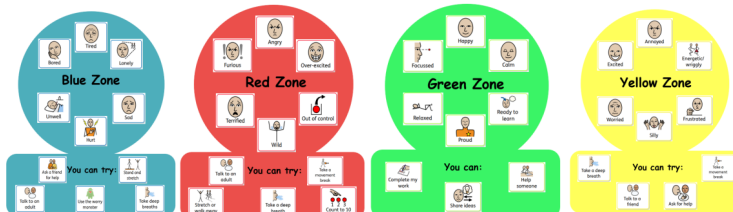
Our school expectation is that children read at least three times a week. This can be a mixture of their reading book, school library book or any book they enjoy reading at home. Please ensure this is recorded in their reading record. **Please note that this applies for children in every year group.**

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. Your child will be given their login again in September. Please also remember that it is free to sign up to Aldershot library where children can borrow additional books. The most important thing you can do to support your child's reading is to talk to them about their books. Please see the questions to help you.



If you think your child would benefit from support, please do get in contact with us so that you can discuss this in more detail with our SENDCo, Mrs Embleton-Horner.

If your child is finding something difficult at home, please do reach out for support if you feel you need it. We use Zones of Regulation at school which support emotional understanding and develop children's confidence in using the language of emotions. It can be beneficial to implement these at home too. Let us know if you would like help in doing this.



This year, we will operate a three strikes system to ensure that child are safe. Thank you for your continued support.

Being Talavera Smart is important in helping your child understand their role and responsibility at our school. Here is a guide to our uniform. If you need support with your child's uniform, we are here to help.



Red school jumper (can be branded from Edgar Jerome)

White polo shirt

Black skirt, shorts or trousers

Leggings are not school uniform.



Indoor PE: red or white t-shirt (plain or Talavera-branded) and black shorts

Outdoor: as above, with red or black jumper. Leggings or tracksuit bottoms can be worn. Socks and trainers.

Jobs and responsibilities

We have a number of roles which children can take on to help develop their independence, confidence and resilience. These include:

Talavera Ambassadors: These students welcome new entrants and help them to acclimatise to life at Talavera. They receive training in Makaton to assist in this.

Librarians: Children who are passionate about reading often thrive in this role which includes supporting children in choosing new books and organising the library.

School Councillors: These students are chosen through a democratic election process and have real say in the school.

Prefects: Available to year 6 only. These students are role models for the rest of the school.

Eco-Councillors: If your child is passionate about protecting our environment, this the role for them.

House Captains: Available to year 6 only. These students are team players, often love sports (but not always!) and can bring people together.

Junior Road Safety Officers: These students promote safety in our school and in our local environment.

Our school library will continue to open before and after school this year! Mrs Opoku (our librarian) will be opening the library **every Monday at 8am until 8:30am and every Thursday from 3:20pm until 4:00pm.**

This means you will be able to support your child in choosing books to enjoy at home and have a space where you can sit, read and chat with your child about one of our favourite things at Talavera: reading!



Key Dates

September:

Thursday 4th: First day of school

W/C 15th: House Teams launch week

W/C 15th: Clubs begin

Thursday 18th: Year 3 Parent Expectations evening

Monday 23rd: Year 4 Legoland trip

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

Friday 26th: Year 3 Stone Age day (dress up day)

Friday 26th: Charity Bake Sale after school

Monday 29th September or Wednesday 1st October - Year 3 Butser Farm trip

Thursday 2nd: Poetry Day

Friday 3rd: Year 6 Chessington trip

W/C 6th: National Library Week and Aldershot Library trip

Friday 10th: Fijian Day

Friday 17th: Harvest Assembly (food donations welcome)

Friday 17th: House event: Cross country

W/C 20th: IEP drop-ins for parents (invite only)

Thursday 23rd: Last day before half-term

Friday 24th October - INSET day—no pupils in school

November

Monday 3rd: INSET day—no pupils in school

Tuesday 4th: First day back at school

100%

Attendance at school is vital in ensuring your child does not miss learning, as well as in building resilience. We will be working closely with you to ensure your child's attendance is above 97% as a minimum. This gives your child the best opportunity to achieve their full potential.

We use the following NHS guidance to advise you on when your child can attend school: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Please reach out to us if you have any concerns as we want to work with you. We know that odd days off school can have significant impact on a child's outcomes.