Welcome back! I trust you all enjoyed your autumn break? Our new topic is Light and Dark, and I am already really excited about what we will be learning. Please see our Topic Web for extra details.

Please may I gently remind you to ensure your child’s property is clearly labelled with their name. We encourage the children to look after their property, but of course, some things are bound to go walkabout. I am starting a ‘Lost Property’ box, which will be in the cloakroom next to the Lunch Box basket, for any stray items found at the end of the day. Please may I also remind you that children are to be encouraged NOT to bring in toys from home unless specifically requested. We would like to avoid tears if a toy is ‘borrowed’, lost or broken!

PE is still on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, but we may change these times at short notice for various reasons. Therefore please remember to bring in your child’s PE kit on Monday, and leave it on their peg all week. We will remind them to take it home on Fridays for a quick wash!

As ever, we still intend to use our outdoor classroom and the Enchanted Wood for our learning. Therefore, please may I ask you to send a pair of wellies to school with your child each week. We have a few spare pairs, but not enough for everyone. Any cast offs will be greatly received! It is also imperative that children bring a coat or jacket as the weather gets colder.

We have received a record number of WOW moments from you all; I am so impressed! These make a valuable contribution to your child’s Learning Journal, as well as their self-esteem. You can find extra WOW! slips in an envelope attached to our WOW! Wall. Keep them coming!
Homework will continue to be sent home on Fridays and expected in the following Wednesday. Reading books will go home every day with the expectation that every child reads to an adult for 5 minutes a day. Research has long shown the impact this has on a child's attainment, in all areas of the curriculum! There will be daily phonics worksheets in addition. I know this can all seem rather daunting in terms of time and energy, for both children and adults! However, I understand all too well the stresses of busy family life, so please do not worry if occasionally it goes by the wayside. Above all, have fun being involved in your child's learning – there are so many ways to do this as well as homework!

As we are continuing to foster independence and a sense of responsibility in the children, may I kindly ask that Year 1 children enter the building by themselves and arrange their belongings, as they know how. Foundation children may still be accompanied into the cloakroom by their grown-ups at this stage. Home School Records should be placed in the yellow tray every day, and reading books/reading records stay in book bags which are kept in the children's drawers. This way, they can access what they need at any time.

If for any reason you need to speak to us, please do not hesitate to call us over. If you need to speak to us at greater length about any concerns you have, you are more than welcome to make an appointment.

Thank you for your continued support.

Cook Class Team