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Friday 16th January, 2015

Dear parents / carers,

We shall be holding two open evenings for you to come and meet your child's class teacher on:

#### Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th Ferbruary.

Our aim is to work in partnership with parents and carers. The purpose of this discussion is to enable you to contribute to your child's learning. The discussion gives you and your child's class teacher the opportunity to celebrate your child's academic progress and achievements, and raise any concerns or areas for development. Your child's class teacher will also share the levels that your child is working at and targets for him / her to work towards.

Each appointment will last 10 minutes, so it is best to make sure you are armed with any questions! Please try to keep to agreed time-limit, so that other parents / carers are not inconvenienced. We are very happy to offer you a further appointment if you wish to have a more in-depth discussion. Please arrive a little earlier than your appointment so that you can look at your child's work in his / her books and on display in class and around school. Please inform us if you would like to have an interpreter.

Please complete the tear-off slip below, and return it to your child's class teacher as soon as possible. You will receive a note with an appointment date and time on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January**. Please note that whilst we endeavour to give you your first choice, this is not always possible. Yours sincerely,

Juliette Westwood

Juliette Westwood Executive Head Teacher

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### Parents' and Carers' Conferencing Evenings

Child's Name	in Class
My child has a brother / sister in Class	Name of sibling
I will / will not be able to attend the Parents / Carers conferencing evening	
	day 12th February e 5pm 🔲 5pm 🔲



### Starting points for discussion!

#### Literacy and Numeracy

Some topics that could be discussed:

Your child's knowledge and enjoyment of story, and opportunities that might be possible for story telling and story listening.

Some of your child's favourite stories and rhymes.

The kinds of reading your child enjoys at home, eg. comics, own books, books from school. With young children, evidence that they are aware of print around them, eg on TV, signs, computers etc.; whether your child chooses to read.

Whether or not your child attends community schools, eg Punjabi Club / Portuguese Club.

Opportunities for writing at home and whether your child chooses to write / draw. Opportunities to use number at home and whether your child chooses to use number. Your child's special interests at home, including favourite toys, games, TV programmes.

#### Opportunities and experiences out of school

Eg. Does your child belong to any clubs; spend time with extended family; visit the library; go into town to spend pocket money; go to the park? What does your child like doing in her / his leisure time? Does your child read at home with you?

#### Progress / development at school

#### Behaviour at home and at school

#### Concerns / anxieties at home or at school

#### Questions you could ask:

What are my child's strengths? Has my child shown any special talents? What is my child finding difficult? How can I help with this? Does my child try hard enough? Does my child join in class discussions? How can I help with my child's schoolwork in general? Has my child made sufficient progress since his/her last report? Is my child happy at school? Has my child made friends? Does my child's behaviour give any cause for concern?

#### Remember.....

- If the teacher says anything you don't understand, don't be afraid to ask them to explain what they mean
- If you feel nervous about meeting teachers, remember that they probably feel the same way about meeting parents!







Come and share a book with your child on Friday 30th January 2.45 ~ 3.15pm. Please come into school to help and encourage your child to read for pleasure. We would love to see you!

## <u>10 Tips for Sharing books with Your</u> <u>Child</u>

- Talk about the book to your child first. Talk about the front cover and the pictures. (What do you think the story might be about? What do you think is going to happen?)
- 2. Let your child look through the book and get a sense of the story through the pictures.
- 3. Read the book to your child and encourage your child to make comments about the story.





4. Ask your child to predict what will happen



next in the story before turning the page.

- 5. Re-read the book and suggest your child joins in when s/he wants to.
- 6. Ask your child if s/he would like to read the story independently.
- 7. Point to the words as you or your child reads.
- 8. Give your child plenty of time to think.
- 9. Try not to say that a word is wrong, but ask a question that makes them think for themselves about what they are reading, for example, "Did that make sense?"
- 10. Always try to be positive and give lots of praise and encouragement.

# Have fun and enjoy reading!

