



THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL
Rock Road
Storrington
West Sussex
RH20 3AA

Headteacher: Mr L. McDonald
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs E. Hopkins
SENCOs: Mr L. McDonald & Mrs R. Stender

Tel: 01903 740176

Email: office@thakehamps.co.uk

Web: <http://www.thakehamps.co.uk>

‘At Thakeham we CARE’

Courage. Ambition. Respect. Enjoyment.

19th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted to share with you some fantastic news.

As part of an initiative funded by the Department for Education in response to COVID-19, our school is being offered access to a programme called the Nuffield Early Language Intervention (NELI). The programme is designed for Reception pupils and involves providing targeted small group and one-to-one support for children who would benefit from additional support with their language and early literacy skills.

The NELI programme begins with the assessment of all our Beatles pupils using a tablet-based assessment called LanguageScreen. This assessment is to help us understand who may benefit most from receiving the NELI intervention. LanguageScreen is a short (approx. 10 minutes) fun activity for children which gives useful information about children’s language skills. The assessment is used again at the end of the school year to help us see how children’s language skills have benefited from the NELI intervention.

Following our assessments and observations of your child during the first half term, we feel that they would benefit from being part of this small group. Mrs Devereux will lead the sessions 2x a week with each session lasting about 20-30 minutes. The sessions are fun and engaging and the children will get to know Ted the puppet bear who will help them in their learning. They are planned out with lots of games, speaking and listening activities and is a great opportunity for the children to have some quieter small group time outside of the classroom to practise their speaking and listening skills.

We are not saying that your child has any particular SEND needs, the sessions are purely designed to help further support children from what is going on inside the classroom.

We hope you are as excited as we are about this wonderful opportunity for your child.

Best wishes,

Mrs Stender and Mrs Usherwood

