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17th January 2025

## Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may know we have a hugely diverse community here at Shaw and we love to celebrate that. At our last count, our children spoke 33 different languages! At the request of our children, we are going to be building language communities where the children will have the opportunity to spend some time with other children who speak their language practicing their mother tongue. They can also read some of our new bilingual books in both their language and in English which they can also share with our English only speaking children.

Research shows that being able to speak another language has many benefits for the brain and learning (please see our <u>Language Communities</u> page for more information), and we are looking to help the children in retaining their other language.

If your child is lucky enough to speak, hear or read another language other than English, please can you let us know which language by emailing <a href="mailto:fpso@shawprimary.thurrock.sch.uk">fpso@shawprimary.thurrock.sch.uk</a> so that we can link them with other children who may speak the language, buy appropriate resources, and give them opportunities to share this with the rest of our school community.

Please copy the table below into your email response; this is all the information we need to know.

Child name and class:	
Language/s I can speak:	
Language/s I can read:	
Language/s I hear at home:	

Many thanks

Amy Newland Assistant Headteacher

