



Monday 11th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to welcome you and your child to EYFS. We hope you have had an enjoyable summer holiday and would like to provide you with a little more information about the year ahead. During this term we will be working on a number of skills across the curriculum. Please see the topic map attached at the bottom of this letter for details of what we expect your child to achieve this term.

It has been lovely to work with the children and see all their smiley faces. They seem to have taken on the challenge of starting school in their stride and we are looking forward to continuing to build relationships with them. If you haven't done so already, please don't forget to sign up for Cool Milk. This is free up until your child's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. May we remind you all children should have a named water bottle in school with water in it, so they have access to this during the school day. If your child brings a packed lunch to school please make sure it is nut free.

We are taking part in **NWN First Class** photo's. The photographer will be in school on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October**. If you **do not** want your child to participate in this please let the class teacher know.

### Parental Involvement

We are excited to be holding our Open Mornings again this year. We will be having two this term on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October** and **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November**. The sessions will run from **8.45am** until **9.30am**. This is a chance for your child to share their learning with you. **Please note that the school gates will be locked at 9am, therefore you will have to exit through the Lower Way gate at the end of the session.**

### Wellie Wednesday

Wellie Wednesdays will be on a rotation basis, where we will spend time on the school field, MUGA, wild flower meadow and garden as well as doing campfire cooking and visiting Thatcham Lakes. We will remain on site for at least the first term. As always we rely on parental support for activities, such as campfire cooking and exploring the lakes, to take place. If you are able to donate your time, please ask for a volunteers pack. Wellie Wednesday sessions will take place every **Wednesday morning** unless you are notified otherwise. Our first **Wellie Wednesday will be on Wednesday 20th September**. The children can come to school in old clothes, with their school uniform in a named bag. Your child will also require named wellies and waterproofs to enable them to participate in all of the fabulous outdoor learning opportunities such as our sandpit and mud kitchen. Now is a good time to check that your child's uniform is clearly labelled.

### P.E and Library Sessions

We will be having our library sessions on Tuesday afternoons and our first session will be on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September**. Children will be issued with a library book to enjoy with you at home. Please share this book with your child and help us on our journey towards developing a love of reading. Please ensure that your child's library book is in school every Tuesday otherwise they may not be able to loan another book.

This year our P.E. session will be on Friday afternoons. We ask that your child wears their P.E kit to school and stays in it all day. Our first P.E. session will be on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September**.

**KIT:** Black shorts/jogging bottoms, plain white t-shirt and plimsolls/trainers. Your child will also need to wear their school jumper or cardigan.

### Tapestry

All children and parents have been now been registered on Tapestry. You should have received an activation email to access your account. If you have not received this email, please check your junk email first and then tell a member of staff. We will be adding 'settling in' and 'wow' moments but would be interested to learn about your child's experiences at home too! So please add to Tapestry when you can.

## Be the teacher

This will be a session that happens every Friday and it is an opportunity for your children to share some of their interests, fascinations and expertise with the rest of their class. It would be great if you could work with your child to design a session for them to lead. This could involve a slide show, a song, a dance or even an interactive activity for us all to share. In the past we have had children talking about aeroplanes and then showing everyone how to make a paper one. Other favourites have been to teach us a new song or even a ballet or tap move that they have recently learnt. It would be lovely to see the children's interest shining through as you can really tell when they are truly passionate about something! Sometimes just talking about their favourite story or retelling a story with puppets can be enough.

If you do need any help please ask, however this really should be your child's chance to 'Be the Teacher'! We will shortly be sending out a timetable so that you can support your child in getting ready for their 'Be the Teacher' session. If you would like to email any resources or photographs to help with your child's 'Be the teacher' session please use our email address: [fs@pdp.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:fs@pdp.w-berks.sch.uk)

We look forward to an exciting year ahead with your children.

The EYFS team



### Physical Development

- Holding a pencil
- Develop core muscle strength to achieve good posture when sitting.
- Begin to use tools and equipment with coordination, safety and confidently.
- Move in a variety of ways, developing control and grace

### Literacy

- Develop phonological awareness of rhyme and alliteration
- Understand the names of different parts of a book
- Understand that print has meaning and can have different purposes
- Write own name independently
- Recognise and write phase 2 sounds: s, a, t, p, i, n, m, d, g, o, c, k, ck, e, u, r, h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss, j, v, w, x, y, z, zz, qu.

### Communication and Language

- Listening to and joining in with stories
- Learn and use new vocabulary
- Respond to simple instructions
- Retell simple past events using sentences
- Develop social phrases

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Play in a group
- Form relationships
- Show an awareness of own feelings and those of others.
- Managing their own needs

### Expressive arts and design

- Sing in a group or on their own matching pitch and following the melody
- Experiment with sounds and colours and how they change
- Engage in imaginative role-play

### Understanding the World

- Talk about members of their immediate family
- Name and describe people who are familiar to them.
- Understand that some places are special to members of their community

### Foundation Stage Autumn 2023

This term we will be focusing on these skills for development.

### Mathematics

- Recognise, name, order and count numbers to 5
- Addition and subtraction within 5
- Sort and categorise objects.
- Create and recreate patterns
- Time – daily routines, first/then/next
- Discuss routes and locations using words like 'in front of' and behind

