



Friday 13th September 2024

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.

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 5th 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. If your child is having school dinners please order these at home.

We are taking part in **NWN First Class** photo's. The photographer will be in school on **Monday 21st 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. The first one will be on **Monday 23rd September** and will run from **8.45am** until **9.45am**. 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 main reception and the Herons 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 18th September**. The children should come to school in their P.E kit, 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

This year both our library and P.E sessions are on Friday afternoons and our first session will be on **Friday 13th September**.

In our library sessions 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 Friday otherwise they may not be able to loan another book.

For P.E. we ask that your child wears their P.E kit to school and stays in it all day.

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 5–10 minute 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: fstage@pdp.w-berks.sch.uk

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

The EYFS team