

Foundation Stage Autumn Term 1 2017



Welcome to all the children who are new to our Foundation Stage and also to all the children who attended Blue Room and have now moved into Foundation Two; we look forward to getting to know you all.

During the day your child will enjoy participating in a mixture of teacher led and child led activities. At the start of each day your child will spend time with their class teacher, learning about the daily routines in their classroom, before going to enjoy 'Explore and Investigate' time. During this session children are able to explore all areas of the Foundation Unit and are able to lead their own learning. Staff will interact alongside the children and this will be an excellent opportunity to get to know each child and find out their interests and likes.



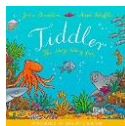
In Communication, Language and Literacy we will enjoy listening to stories about starting school and discussing all the exciting and perhaps worrying experiences, which your child may experience when they start school. We will use name cards to help your child practise how to write their name, including the correct letter formation and focus on the correct place to start and finish each letter. We will also explore which hand is more comfortable to hold our pencil in and which pencil patterns we can follow.



During our first half term we help your child settle in their new class. They will begin to find out about the rules and routines in their classroom and explore the exciting resources in the Foundation Stage. Together we will play lots of games to help us learn each others' names, find out what we are good at and what games we enjoy playing.



As the term progresses we will be listening to stories written by Julia Donaldson, and will be basing our learning around these. They include 'The Snail and the Whale', 'Tiddler', 'Stick Man' and 'The Gruffalo.'



Our activities include talking about our holidays, learning about sea creatures, exploring materials and finding out about Autumn. At the end of the half term, we will also take part in activities based around Bramley Apple Day in Southwell.



In Maths we will enjoy counting together each day as we find out how many children are in our class. Whilst learning all about our new classrooms we will recognise and count how many children can 'Explore and Investigate' in each area of the Foundation Unit. Outside we will count how many bands are available for each area. Together we will enjoy singing a selection of number songs and begin to learn new number songs. Children will begin to order numbers both inside and outside in the Foundation Unit. We will learn how to recognise and write the numbers 1-10.

Muddy Explorers

In Muddy Explorers, the children have the opportunity to take part in various learning activities outside. This could be exploring wildlife, making mud pies and potions or focusing on the differences between the seasons.

Please ensure your child brings named wellies and a waterproof

into school on the following days:



Rainbow Room - Tuesday

Yellow Room - Thursday

If the weather looks warm and dry you do not need to bring the kit for that day. However, we will go outside regardless of the weather!

Phonics



In Phonics we will initially work from Phase 1, which will be a mixture of rhyming, oral segmenting and blending, plus a range of listening games and activities. We will then move onto phase 2 where your child will learn how to read and write a new phoneme every couple of days.

If you have any spare time during the school day we always appreciate parents and grandparents coming in to help in class and on school visits. When helping in class you may be asked to listen to readers, stick in work or a variety of other tasks. Please let your child's teacher know if you are able to help, either on a weekly basis or each half term.

Reading books

Within your child's first few weeks at school they will be bringing home one or two reading books. Children in F2 receive their books three times a week. Please write a simple comment in your child's reading diary each time you listen to your child read, we only change books once they have read at home, so it is important to write a comment in their reading diary. Every child in F2 will read to a member of the Foundation Stage team each week. This may be individually or in a small guided reading group. Please send your child's reading diary into school every day so that they can read in school.

Initially your child may not have words and we encourage you to talk about the pictures and characters, retell the story and enjoy the book together. As their confidence grows and their knowledge of letters builds they will begin to recognise and sound out letters, segment and blend words and gradually become more fluent.



Please try to get in to the habit of reading daily with your child for a few minutes; this really will help them to progress.

PE

PE takes place every Friday for both Rainbow Room and Yellow Room.

Please ensure your child has a named PE kit in school for these lessons. PE kits will be kept in school until the end of the half term. At home you can help your child by encouraging them to get dressed and undressed independently.



Ball Skills

Both Rainbow Room and Yellow Room will have Ball Skills on a Wednesday morning.

Children will need to bring in their named outdoor PE kit each week. The kit needs to include trainers and a sunhat for warmer days or a jumper for cooler days. They will bring their kit home at the end of the day each week.

-Please ensure that book bags and reading books are brought into school every day.

-Please bring a named water bottle into school on a Monday.

-Water bottles will be sent home every Friday to be washed and returned on Monday.

-Please ensure that all of your child's uniform and belongings are labelled clearly.

Thank you, The Foundation Stage Team.



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Ofsted
Outstanding
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