

Welcome to Foundation Stage

Welcome to Cliffe Woods Primary School! We hope you all had a great summer break and are looking forward to your first term at 'big' school. The staff working in year R this year are Mrs Butcher, Mrs Buckley (Mon—Thurs) and Mrs Medhurst (Fri) in Piglet class and Mrs Webb and Mrs Herbert in Duckling class. Mrs Brown will be supporting children in both classes and Mrs Bailey will be doing PPA cover in both classes each Thursday.

Term One

During this term we will be working on the topic 'Ourselves'. We will be learning about how we grow and change and talking about how our bodies work. Also we will be thinking about the importance of family and friends and what makes us unique and special. Of course our main focus this term is to settle the children into the routines of school life and ensure that they are happy, confident and ready to learn.

Literacy/Communication and Language

We will be following the 'Little Wandle' phonics scheme which is a revised version of 'Letters and Sounds' and looking at how we use sounds to build words. We adopt a multi-sensory approach to the teaching of phonics, using creative activities, visual clues and actions to aid learning. We usually cover several sounds each week and your child will create a poster for each sound which they will bring home to share with you.

As we progress through the scheme we will be introducing a few tricky words each week which you may like to practise at home.

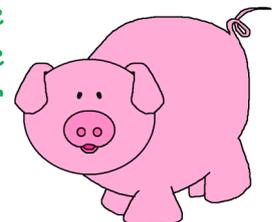
Your child will be able to choose a new library book on Tuesdays and Fridays. We will introduce reading scheme books later in term 2.

Mathematics

We will mainly be concentrating on number recognition, ordering numbers and some basic addition and subtraction in practical contexts. We will also be looking at 2D shape and repeating patterns.

Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning is an integral part of our Early Years curriculum. We will start using the Woodland Adventure area once the children are in full time. We have started to set up a growing area next to our outside space so that children can learn about how plants grow. If any one is willing to help with this either by donating seeds, soil or equipment we would be most grateful.





Term Two

Literacy/Communication and Language

We will have covered all of the Phase 2 phonemes from 'Letters and Sounds' and will begin working on Phase 3, word building and understanding how to construct simple sentences. We will also look at writing for different purposes, (recipes, labels, environmental print and of course letters to Santa!!!). It really does make a difference to your child's progress if they are able to practise reading the tricky words at home. Reading scheme books will be sent home this term.

Mathematics

We will be focusing on number recognition beyond 10 as well as exploring the concepts of more and less than, practical addition and subtraction and 2D and 3D shape recognition.

General information

- School opens at 8.45am to enable a prompt start to the working day at 8.55am. Foundation Stage children leave school at 3.25pm.
- Book bags will need to be brought into school on a daily basis to ensure that teachers have access to contact books, these books may be used to convey any messages or queries you might have. We are now also introducing Seesaw as a point of contact. Children do not need to bring in any other bags, rucksacks or other resources apart from those provided by us. Our storage space is restricted, so we would be grateful if key rings on book bags are limited to one, small item.
- Please can we remind you that lunch boxes should not contain fizzy drinks, chocolate bars, nuts or sweets. Also we do insist that only water is brought into the classrooms in a **named** bottle or flask. As I am sure you will agree, it is especially important at the moment that children only drink from their own bottles. A fruit snack is provided at break time so children do not need to bring in their own snack.
- Our PE kit comprises of black shorts, plain white T-shirt and black plimsolls. Kits remain in school for the duration of the term and are sent home each holiday for washing. Please ensure that **ALL** your child's belongings are clearly named.
- Please note that, in accordance with our Health and Safety policy, children are not allowed to wear jewellery, make-up, nail varnish or tattoos in school with the exception of small stud earrings in pierced ears which must be removed each Monday for PE lessons. Long hair must be tied back at all times.
- Please ensure that your child has a lightweight waterproof jacket in school as we take the children outside in all weathers.

Thank you

Mrs Butcher & Mrs Webb

