

Welcome to Foundation Stage

Welcome to Cliffe Woods 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 Miss Ward and Mrs Burns in Goslings class and Mrs Bishop and Mrs Harrison in Puggles class. Mrs H will be supporting children in both classes and Mrs Butcher will be covering PPA in both classes each week.

Term One

During this term the theme will be storytelling. We will be sharing lots of high quality stories and traditional tales. 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 use visual cues to aid our phonics learning. We usually cover several sounds each week.

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 subitising (knowing how many you have without counting objects up to 4). We will also be looking at comparing size, mass and capacity as well as 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. Children will need wellington boots and either an all-in-one puddle suit or a waterproof jacket and waterproof trousers. These need to be clearly labelled and will stay in school until the October half term.





Term Two

Our topic in Term Two is Celebrations. We will be looking at celebrations in the UK and around the world. The children will have lots of chances to explore and discuss the different celebrations, particularly through stories and Art.

Literacy/Communication and Language

We will have covered all of the Phase 2 phonemes 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 developing number sense and understanding 1 more and 1 less. We will also look at the properties of 2D shapes, in particular circles, triangles and 4 sided shapes.

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. Children do not need to bring in any other bags, rucksacks or other resources apart from those provided by us.
- Please can we remind you that lunch boxes should not contain fizzy drinks, chocolate bars, nuts, seeds or sweets. Also we do insist that only water is brought into the classrooms in a **named** bottle or flask. 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 from the Reception Team

