

Dear Parent



Autumn Term Curriculum Letter

Welcome to our wonderful school and especially to Acorns Class.

The first three weeks of this half term will be focused on ensuring your child is settled and happy at school. Using the assessments from pre-school as a starting point, we will assess every child to form a baseline for their progress. What this means is that we will be listening to them and watching them very closely, observing their play, their interaction with other children and adults, their ability to cope in new situations, what fascinates them and what puzzles them, how well they persevere and many, many other characteristics that your child has already developed.

By investing this time at the beginning of the year your child will have a great start at school and we will be much better equipped to help them reach their potential. As we work our way through the autumn term we will begin to introduce dedicated phonics and maths sessions and provide enhancements and provocations to engage and excite your child. I don't know what these will be ... it depends on their interests!

In this foundation year your child learns best through play. It's our job to make sure our teaching and the environment we're in gives your child every opportunity to be engaged in a way that they enjoy. To give you an idea of our week I've listed the basic provision below:

- **Morning jobs** - help your child be independent this term - especially with their own personal care.
- **Hello Acorns!** Let's see who is in class and think about our day ahead
- **Lovely Learning.** The inside/outside classroom will be set up at different points in the day to provide a range of provocations for children to explore. The adults will support and observe so we can make sure everyone is challenged and engaged. We will build up to having dedicated teacher-led activities when the children are ready.
- **Read Write Inc (RWInc).** We will systematically follow this reading programme. I will have a separate reading to tell you more about how it works and how you can support your child on their reading journey. This meeting will take place at 5pm on Tuesday 19 September in our classroom.
- **Maths.** There will be a short daily teacher-led input for maths to teach core skills. This will be complemented by a maths-rich environment for children to explore as part of their play.

- **Outdoor Adventures.** One afternoon a week will be an outdoor adventure for Acorns. There's no such thing as bad weather - only bad clothing! I will send a separate note with details of what your child will need.
- **Assembly.** At the end of every day we will come together to talk about our day, think about what we'd like to do tomorrow and share a book. As we go through the term, and when the children are ready, we will start to bring them to the whole school assembly and Friday morning celebration assembly.

As you know, we will be using an online learning journey programme called Tapestry. We are working hard to enter all the initial information now the children have arrived in school. Over the next couple of weeks you should receive an email giving you your unique access to your child's learning journey. If you have any issues or worries about the system please let me know.

My team and I are very much looking forward to getting to know you and your child and we would like to invite you to a ***Macmillan Coffee Morning*** at school on Friday 22 September, 9am-9.30am. Look out for details in the school newsletter.

Finally, our classroom is open to you every morning and we would encourage you to come in and let your child impress you with their independence. You will see me every morning and afternoon but if you want to have a more in-depth or private chat I'm available after school.

With best wishes

Mrs Rice
Acorns Teacher

PS - our children really love the outdoor mud kitchen and I am always grateful to receive 'ingredients' - particularly dried or wilting cut flowers, cut or potted herbs, Thank you.