



DUCKLINGTON
C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our new families in Ducklings Class. We have been very impressed with the children's smooth transition to school and look forward to helping them explore their interests, develop new skills and become independent, creative learners.

Thank you for encouraging your children to become independent by coming in by themselves. They are all really proud of themselves.

Topic Plan

When planning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) we base our topics on the needs and interests of the children. Our current topic is 'Getting to Know You' and a copy of our topic plan is attached for your information.

In Foundation the focus is on the way children learn which is known as the Characteristics of Effective Learning. They run through and underpin the seven areas of learning and development, as detailed in the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. They describe learning processes that occur throughout every day activities and experiences. They also support the child to remain an effective and motivated learner. Through focusing on the Characteristic of Effective Learning the children will be encouraged to become aware of how they learn, and use the language to explain the skills they use when learning.



Here is a summary of the different characteristics

Playing and Exploring

Finding out and exploring

Playing with what they know

Being willing to have a go

Active Learning

Being involved and concentrating

Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

Keep trying

Creating and Thinking Critically

Having their own ideas

Making links

Choosing new ways to do things

Phonics folders and Home learning

Your child will soon bring home a sound folder with the letter sounds that have been taught during that week. Please leave your child's phonics folder in their book bags so we can add to them as appropriate. Please encourage your child to look at their sounds on a daily basis. Further home learning tasks will come home outlining the learning that has taken place in school. This will also provide you with an opportunity to comment on your child's learning at home and home-learning experiences.

Resources

Throughout the year we will be providing your child with a variety of regular experiences including cooking and baking, making models and experimenting with malleable materials such as corn flour, gloop and playdough. We would be very grateful for any contributions you may be able to donate for these activities for example flour, salt, corn flour, crème of tartar, washing up liquid, rice, pasta, and craft materials such as buttons, ribbons, wrapping paper, envelopes, paper etc.

We would also be grateful for junk modelling materials but we can quickly become inundated, therefore please check with a member of the team before bringing in.

Thank you in advance for any way in which you may be able to support us. It really is appreciated.

WOW Sheets

If your child has something special they would like to share with us, from a family day out to an achievement outside school. Please print out one of the attached WOW sheets.

Once completed, please return to class. The form will be shared with the class, displayed on the achievement board and then filed in your child's learning journal.

Look at me sheets

These will come home during the year with a photograph of an activity that your child has been involved in. They can talk to you about the activity and there is a space for you to write in. Please return to class once they have been filled in.

Items from home.

To avoid lost or broken items we would request that no toys are brought into school. We will have days when topic related items can be brought in. This will be detailed in their home learning books.

P.E.

The children will bring home their PE kits before each holiday. PE in foundation stage will consist of both some whole class sessions when the children get dressed for PE and some small group sessions in the outdoor area.

Water bottles

We ask that children bring in a water bottle and place it on the drinks table. They are able to drink their water throughout the day and refill it. This enables the children to become independent at choosing when they have a drink and ensures they are hydrated throughout the day.

Milk

Each child receives free milk until their 5th birthday, Once they turn 5 this will stop unless you register for it. If your child would like to be taken off the milk register before they turn five please inform Cool Milk.

Snack

The children have fruit and vegetables for snack each day so there is no need to bring your own snack into school.

Reading

Your child will soon come home with a story book which they choose themselves for you to share with your child. Please read and share these books with your child and always put back in your child's book bag to keep it safe. Please record in their reading record book.

Reminders

Please could your child leave a pair of named wellington boots in school, they also need a jumper/cardigan and coat daily. A spare set of clothing, in particular socks and pants, left

in your child's bag would be appreciated. It would also be very helpful if all personal items including drinks bottles, shoes and coats are named

Water bottles must be brought in every day containing water only please.

If your child is having a school dinner your child's food request form must be in school by the Thursday of the previous week. We have a post box to our entrance gate for letters and notes or please hand to a member of staff.

If your child is being picked up by someone other than yourself, please ensure you have written who will be collecting them on the list on the door. If this will be a regular occurrence for example a childminder every Wednesday, please fill in the attached form and email the school office.

Medicines and Allergies

Please ensure any allergies or suspected/possible allergies are known to the school, we will eat food we have cooked within school time, therefore it is important that we know of any potential issues.

Non-prescription medicines (including calpol) are **not** allowed to be administered at school. If your child requires prescription medication this must be taken to the school office in a labelled box with your child's photo with a completed medicine form.

All of the children have settled in really well and we are looking forward to the rest of the term. We will endeavour to keep you regularly informed about topics and information to support your child's learning but please do come and see us if you have any concerns or need more information. We are always here to help you in any way we can.

Kind Regards,

The Early Years Foundation Stage Team

Regular Drop offs and Pick ups from School

Child's name

Drop off

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Pick up

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday