



Welcome to Foundation

Mr Whittaker, Miss Worth and Mrs Barras

Introduction

Welcome to the Lipson Vale Primary School's Foundation Year. For many of you this will be a new experience so please make sure you keep the lines of communication open and come to us whenever you have a question, no matter how small. This is a very exciting year for the children with lots of play based and child initiated activities for them to take part in. We also have formal lessons and daily timetables become gradually more structured as the year goes on. You will all be amazed at how quickly the children progress throughout the year as they take part in their daily lessons such as phonics and maths but it is also vital that you support your children at home by hearing them read regularly and by supporting them in any work that we send home. Please ask if you need advice and support in helping your children at home.

Topics covered this year

We do follow a thematic approach in Foundation but we tend to take our lead from the children. Once we get to know them and their interests we are then able to make informed choices about which topics to choose.

Topics from previous years have included; Space, Growing Food, Transport, Animals and the Weather.

PE days

The children take part in a 30 minute PE lesson every Monday. There is no need to buy PE kits quite yet and we will give you plenty of notice when we are planning to embark on 'full change' lessons. The Foundation staff assist the children during the lessons but each lesson is delivered by one of our PE specialists, Lewis.

Homework and expectations

Phonics (Read Write Inc) support materials are sent home each week. Please encourage your child to tell you about the sounds they have learnt and ask them to show you how they have been taught to write them. Additional phonics support will be sent to you via Tapestry, the online learning journal.

Reading books are sent home each week and we would like reading diaries to be signed at least three times a week. Please tell us about other reading you have done in the Reading Diary too. Reading books will be changed twice a week but please send them into school everyday so that we can read with your child too.

Statutory Tests

Baseline assessments are carried out with each child during the first few weeks of school. The outcomes of these tests, which are used alongside the information past to us from their previous setting, allow us to find out their prior knowledge and then set starting points for each area of the curriculum for each individual child to build on.

How to help your child at home

Although we see most of you each day, it is vital that you check in your child's bookbag each day as this is also another important line of communication between you and the school.

Please encourage your child to tell you about their school day as you travel home and celebrate any new knowledge and skills they might have learnt at school. As mentioned above, please support your children with any work that is sent home for them and don't be afraid to ask if you need help in doing this.





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Other things you need to know

The Foundation Team are approachable and willing to answer any questions you might have at both drop off and collection times. Please don't hesitate to ask us any questions, no matter how obvious you think they might be. For many of you, this is your first experience of having a child at school and we are more than happy to put you at your ease.

The Foundation children begin full days on Monday 27th September. They can arrive at the front of the Foundation unit via the main entrance, between 8:45 and 8:55 am. The end of their school day will be at 3:10pm when they will be brought out into the playground. The rear entrance and car park will no longer be in use as a drop off and pick up area.

Date for drop-in: Wednesday 29th September after school

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