



Friday 5th September

Our very warmest welcome to you all! We are looking forward to working with you and your children this year and what a fantastic start to the new year it has been!

The classrooms have been very happy places this week and the children have been busy exploring, playing and making new friends. During these first few days, the children have begun learning the rules and routines of the classrooms in their smaller groups. It won't be long now until our full classes and full days begin—we thank you for your support during these first few days, the gentle start has such a positive impact for our new learners.

We know that the start of the year is a real information overload! Below is a reminder of some of the more important things to check are in place ready for our first full week next week:

Clothing —Please label everything - especially shoes and jumpers! Please also send in your child's named 'spare clothes bag' ASAP if you have not already done so. These spare clothes cover everything from toileting accidents to 'too much fun in the water area!'

Bookbags - Please only send children to school with green bookbags and not backpacks. The children's bookbags go into their drawers and backpacks are too large to fit inside.

Independence - Please practice taking off and putting on coats, jumpers and cardigans as well as supporting good hygiene for toilet use (e.g. handwashing, using toilet paper etc.)

Wellies - Please send named wellies to school, the children will use them for Forest School sessions and wellie walks (especially if we get some snow again this year!)

Letters - Please hand in these to staff and do not put into the book bags - thank you!

Toys from home - While toys from home can be a comfort to children, we kindly ask that you discourage your children from coming into school with toys. In a busy classroom of 30 children, home toys can easily become lost or broken! Walking to school with a toy can help children arriving to school but please encourage your child to hand over any toys to you as they enter the classrooms.

Hot school meals - School meals are free for all children until the end of Year 2. You do not need to inform us if your child is having a hot meal. If your child prefers sandwiches, please send in a named healthy packed lunch. (no nuts)

Forest School and P.E. will start in the next few weeks. We will let you know closer to the time which days these will be on. Please keep your waterproofs at home for now. We will send out a letter explaining what they need to bring on PE / Forest School days.

Water bottles -Please only send water (not squash) in water bottles to have in the classrooms during the day. A separate bottle of squash can be sent in for lunchtimes if wanted (water is always available)

Snack - fruit is provided for the children every day. Please do not need send in an additional snack.

A reminder that Next week's timetable will be different from our first week:

Monday - Group 1 **8:45 - 11** Group 2 **1:00 - 3:15**

Tuesday - **All children in school 8:45 - 1pm** (children will have lunch at school)

Wednesday onwards - **All children in full-time**, pickup at 3:15.

Our start and end-of-day routines are really important for the children to remember every day. You can help them to really embed these routines by asking them these questions:

What colour is your coat peg and tray? Where do you put your water bottle at school? Where do you put your bookbag at school?