



HARNHAM INFANT SCHOOL

Saxon Road, Harnham, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP2 8JZ

Telephone: 01722 327338

Email: admin@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk Website: www.harnhaminfants.org.uk

Headteacher: Miss Natasha Dorrington

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Laura Pike

Friday 6th September 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome to Early Years Foundation Stage / Reception 2019-2020



We just wanted to write you a letter and welcome you to the very start of your child's first year in school. Thank you very much for welcoming the teaching staff in to your homes this week for the home visit before starting school today. We hope you found them to be helpful and informative in your child's transition in to school.

Just a little reminder of the staff working in EYFS this year:

Ladybirds – Miss Jessica Swaine (teacher) and Mrs Shelley Bruss (teaching assistant)

Robins – Mrs Bethany Jones (teacher) and Mrs Wendy Ferris (teaching assistant)

Mrs Laura Pike is the Early Years Leader.

We are all available to answer your questions and support you and your child throughout the year. Please do approach us with anything – we'd be only too happy to help.

On a Wednesday afternoon, the teaching staff are having their PPA (Planning, Preparation and Assessment) time. During these afternoons the Ladybird class will be taught by Mrs Sarah Shaw and the Robin class will be taught by Mrs Lindsay Jackson.

We are so excited to get to know your children better over the coming weeks and months and are sure they will feel safe, happy and secure in their new learning environment.

Communication

Effective communication is absolutely vital to a successful partnership between school and parents. There are several methods of communication we will use which include text messages, emails, letters and the school blogs. If you would like to contact us please use the email addresses below, approach us in the playground or telephone the school office to make an appointment.

Ladybirds: ladybirds@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Robins: robins@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Mrs Pike: lpike@harnham-inf.wilts.sch.uk

Blogs

On the school website, you will find links to the class blogs. Click on the school blog tab at the top and then the animal of your child's class. The blog will contain updates from the teachers, photographs and important information. Please check the blog at least once per week so you can get a real flavour of what is going on in school.

PE

Both Robins and Ladybirds are going to be doing PE on a Friday morning, though it is helpful for the children to have their kit in school at all times. Please may you ensure children have a set of plimsolls or trainers to wear, with Velcro fastenings are the most useful. Thank you!

Forest School

Forest School days for Robins and Ladybirds will be on a Thursday. Children may come in to school in their own clothes on a Thursday, with long trousers / leggings and long sleeves please. They will also need a pair of wellington boots (to be kept in school at all times) and a set of waterproofs. We do like to go outside whatever the weather! Thank you!



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Water Bottles

Please may your child bring in a named water bottle to school each day. They will be able to access it throughout the day and we will encourage them to drink plenty. We will send them home each night for washing and refilling for the following day. Thank you.

Coats and Book Bags

Your child will need a named coat in school at all times as the children do get the opportunity to play outside in all weathers. Please may children also bring book bags each day as we often like to send things home for you to see, read or practice. Thank you.

Welcome Meeting

We have a lot more information to share with you about how we teach reading, phonics, mathematics, writing etc so would like to invite you to a welcome meeting on **Thursday 19th September at 3.30pm** in your child's classroom. We will run a crèche so that parents can attend the meeting and have opportunity to ask any questions that you may have.

Dates

Please look out on the school blogs and newsletters for important dates and events. This might be opportunities to stay and play or special events we are planning in school for the children.

Lunches

The children were absolutely amazing at lunch time today! Please may you talk to the children in the morning about whether they are having a hot dinner or a packed lunch. Lunchboxes will need to go on the labelled trolley in the playground at the start of each day and will be there to collect at pick up time too. A copy of the lunchtime menu is available on the school website or at the school office if you would like one.

Reading books

Once we have made some initial observations of your child and their learning we will begin sending home reading books and reading records. We are anticipating sending home the first reading book on Friday 20th September, following the welcome meeting the previous day. We do not want to rush this process as we want to get it right for the children so we thank you in advance for your patience.

Tapestry

Over the next few days you will receive the information you will need to access your child's online learning journey through Tapestry. The teaching staff will be uploading lots of observations over the next few weeks so do keep an eye out on what your children have been up to and be sure to upload some of your own observations from home too!

Finally...

We are so excited to be sharing this year with you! It is going to be a fantastic journey for your child where they will learn so much and have lots of fun doing so.

Please do come and talk to us about any questions, worries, concerns and celebrations.

Best wishes,

The Early Years Team



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