

Our New Adventures!

Welcome to Whitchurch CoFE Primary School and Year R, we are looking forward to working with you and your child.

This half term we are focusing on building new relationships and exploring our new environment.

Week 1:

Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th September.

It will be either 9am – 11:30am or 12:55 – 3:25pm sessions.

You will have received an email to say which session your child is attending.

- **Thursday 11th and Friday 12th All children are in from**
9am to 12:30pm, this includes lunch.
- **Monday 15th September**
8:50am to 3:30pm
First full day

Year R Start and finish times

Please drop off at the classroom door between 8.50am and 9.00am

Please pick up from the classroom door at 3.30pm

Snack Times

During the day your child will be offered a piece of fruit or vegetable. Alongside this we would like to be able to offer your child an additional snack, such as a piece of toast/ cracker or bread stick as we have found that many of the children benefit from this. To do this we request a £15 donation per child which covers the cost for the year. Please put the money in an envelope and hand to your class teacher. Many Thanks

Our Curricular Goals.

Every child is getting to know their local community	Every child can tell a story	Every child to be able to tell a story through music and acting	Every child can build an obstacle course	Every child is an artist	Every child is helping to look after their world	Every child is a healthy child (includes health and wellbeing)
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Every child is an artist – This half term we will be focusing on using the art area, learning how to get the equipment out and put it away when we are finished. We will focus on using glue sticks and masking tape for joining things together and sticking pre-cut collage materials to make pictures and models. We will learn how to set up our own paint station and think about the colours we use when we paint. We will also be focusing on using scissors, learning how to carry them safely and hold them when cutting and using them to cut straight and wavy lines.

We will begin to talk about what we are making or creating and discuss the process we are using. We will discuss what we are drawing, painting or creating.



Every child can tell a story – This half term we will be reading familiar stories, we will begin to ask the children to predict what might happen next. We will make mini me's so that children can take them around the areas and tell little stories as they play, encouraging children tell a story as they play. We will be modelling this alongside the children. We will add small world toys to help add adventures to their stories.



Every child to be able to tell a story through music and acting – This half term we will be singing rhymes that we already know and learning some new ones. We will begin to investigate musical instruments and what they are called and play them in different ways, for example loudly, quietly, fast and slow.



Every child is getting to know their local community – This half term the focus will be on ourselves and our families. We will talk about what makes us individuals, our likes and dislikes and how this is okay as we are all different. We will talk about who is in our family, where we live and if we have any pets.

If you as a family have any celebrations coming up, please let us know as we would like to incorporate these into our learning.



Every child can build their own obstacle course - This half term we will focus on balancing and travelling around an obstacle course. We will begin to understand and follow simple instructions and be able to start and stop. The children will begin to use positional language to describe what they are doing and explore travelling and moving in different ways.



Every child is a healthy child - We will introduce the story of the colour monster, talking about emotions and identifying our emotions. The children will all have a photo of themselves to add to the display to show how they are feeling - these can be moved at any point during the day if their feelings change and we will begin to think about how we are feeling and what has made us feel like that. We will be making new friendships and sharing the resources. We will begin to think about what makes a good friend. Through helping to plan our activities and learning we will discuss different ways to do things. We will talk about danger and how to keep ourselves safe. This will include keeping safe in the classroom, following the classroom rules and transporting equipment safely.



Heart Smart – ‘Don’t forget to let the love in’

This term the children will develop their knowledge and understanding that they are all different and unique. They will discuss how they show emotions through facial expressions and body language. They will develop friendships and talk about why friendships are special.



Looking After our World – We will make our school rules together, thinking and focusing on the things we can do. We will be helping to look after our classroom, helping to tidy the resources away in the correct places and sorting as we tidy. This includes the outdoor area as well as the indoor area.



Phonics - Phonics is an important part of beginning to read and write.

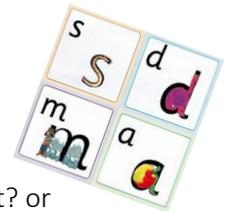
We would like to invite you to the following sessions so that you gain an understanding of how phonics is taught in school and how you can support your child at home.

We hope that you will join us, we find that children who are supported at home make better progress in school.

In the first week, children will learn to identify the picture that goes with the sound cards. We get them to do and say this speedily. They then begin learning the letter sounds in set 1. The first letters they learn are m a s d t. Please keep an eye out for the phonic videos on Google Classroom which you can play for your child to join in and practise.

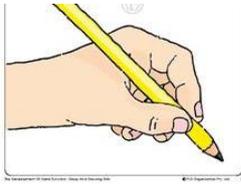


We learn the sounds, pictures and phrases so the children remember them. Children will develop their blending skills with the help of Fred the frog. Fred can only speak in sounds so the children have to listen carefully to work out what he is saying. He likes to play games like – can you touch your ch-i-n? Can you touch your t-u-m? You might like to play this game at home, can you get your c-oa-t? or other items that they need.



Reading - Library Books – The children get to visit the school library every week. They are allowed to choose two books to bring home and share. Please ensure that they have their library books in school Puffins on a Monday and Pelicans on a Wednesday so that they can choose new ones.

Writing - We will be focusing on sitting on our seat with our bottom at the back of the chair and our feet on the floor (we call this our handwriting seat). Children find this tricky as they are still developing their core strength and holding their pencils with the correct grip. (We remind the children by saying, are you using your snappy fingers?) This is so we ensure the children develop good habits. If you are writing with your child at home, please check they are holding their pencil correctly. We remind them by saying snappy fingers.



Correct pencil grip



Maths - This term we will be using our noticing skills to talk about what we can see and how we see it. For example I can see two birds in a tree. I can see two legs and another two legs. We will strengthen our subitising skills, seeing patterns and noticing groups of objects around us. We will begin to explore the composition of number within 5. We will begin to sort objects thinking about the sorting rules, for example, these are all red and these are all blue, these are big and these are small. Please encourage your child to give their reasons in a sentence rather than a one word answer.

PE – Thursday

Children do not need their PE kit this term. They will need this after Christmas.

In PE the children will be learning how to control their bodies using large movements in the large hall, they will develop their core strength and stability through movement. They will play stop and go games and negotiate space.

Key Dates

Monday 15th September — Full time school starts

Notes

Please label **ALL** your child's belongings and clothes. It is very hard to find things when there are no names on them as most of the children's clothes are the same size.

Please ensure your child has their:

- book bag (children are allowed one small keyring on their book bag to help them identify it easily)
- water bottle – Children can bring water bottle holders but these will be kept on their coat pegs during the day.
- If the weather is still warm and sunny, please can we ask that children come to school wearing all day sun cream and with a sun hat (as we spend a lot of time outside).

- During the day your child will be offered a piece of fruit or vegetable. Alongside this we would like to be able to offer your child an additional snack, such as a piece of toast as we have found that many of the children would benefit from this. To do this we request a £15 donation per child which covers the cost for the year. Please put your donation in a named envelope and hand it to one of the adults. Thank you.

Volunteers –If you would like to help in school you will need a DBS check. We are always looking for parents and grandparents to help walk the children to church and Forest School in the Summer term.

Home Learning

Please read and enjoy lots of stories.

Hopefully Google classroom will be up and running soon and we will be able to send out the phonics videos.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your support.

Year R Team

Pelicans Class – Mrs Wersby

Puffins Class – Mrs Lamb (M,T,Th, F) and Mrs Brenton(W)

LSA's – Mrs Pearson, Mrs Smeeton, Mrs Piper and Miss Coughtrey