

Our New Adventures!

Welcome to Whitchurch Primary School and the Year R Unit, 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: 5th, 6th and 7th September—Home visits, we are looking forward to visiting you and your family at home.

Week 2:

Pelicans first session at school is Monday 10th September 8.50-12.00

Penguins first session at school is Monday 10th September 1 - 3.15pm.

Puffins first session in school is Tuesday 11th September 8.50-12.00

All children are then in on Wednesday 12th 8.50-11.45 Thursday 13th 8.50-11.45 Friday 14th 8.50-12.30 staying for lunch.

Children can stay for lunch, and/or the afternoon session on Wednesday 12th - Friday 14th September.

Reading Evening for Parents Thursday 20th September. There will be two opportunities for you to attend. 3.45pm (children welcome) or 7pm. It is really important that you attend one of these sessions so that we can work together so that there is a consistent approach between home and school This also gives you an opportunity to ask any questions.

Reading

The children will begin to bring home reading books on Monday 24th September. This is the after the reading evening. We hope that you will enjoy sharing their reading books on a daily basis.

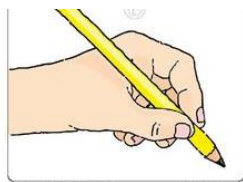
Our Story focus will begin with 'Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sandak'. We will then move onto 'Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain' by Verna Aardema.

Phonics

Learning phonics is very important. Children will begin by learning the letter sounds in phase 2. We will put the letter sounds and a short video on tapestry to help you learn the sounds at home. Children will use these sounds to blend and segment cvc words (simple 3 letter words for example cat) to read and write. We learn the sounds using songs and actions to help the children remember them. Actions really help the children to remember them and you can often see children using the actions as they sound out words.

Writing

- We will be focusing on writing their names and learning to write the letter sounds using cursive script. We will also focus on holding their pencils with the correct grip, this is so that we ensure the children develop good habits. If writing with children at home please check they are holding their pencil correctly. We remind them by saying snappy fingers.



Correct pencil grip



We will have a go at writing simple three letter words also called cvc words.

We are preparing the children to write by getting them to:

- Orally rehearse their word out loud.
- Sounding and hearing the sounds in the word.
- Write it down.
- Reading back what they have written.

We will be doing lots of speaking and listening activities to develop these skills.

Maths

This term we will be concentrating on securing the children's knowledge of numbers 1 to 10 by asking the questions:

- Can you say the number?
- Can you make the number?
- Can you draw the number?
- Can you write the number?
- Can you explain your answer?
- Where can you find the number?

We will also focus on learning the names and properties of 2D shape and using them to make pictures and patterns.

Knowledge and Understanding the World

- We will be learning about how we are special, how we are different from others and family traditions we take part in.

We will be comparing the environment where we live and other environments that are different.

We will be learning about the animals that live in Africa and look to see if any are the same in the UK.

Role Play

Our role play area will begin as a jungle where the wild things live, so that children can retell the story. It will then be transformed into a travel agents or tourist information centre so that children can book holidays and travel to the African plain.

Music

We will be learning new songs and rhymes. We will incorporate rhyming words into our songs. We will be using musical instruments to add our own musical adaptations in both *Where the Wild Things Are* and to make the sounds of the weather from Kapiti Plain. We are looking forward to dancing to African music.

PE (Thursday mornings)

Please remember children to wear either jogging trousers or leggings all day on Thursday

(Children do not need PE kit or plimsolls until after the Christmas Holiday).

The children will be learning about how to keep healthy and how exercise affects their body. We will be taking part in spatial awareness activities and exploring different ways to move our bodies, including, hopping, skipping and jumping.

Forest School

Forest school will start on Tuesday 2nd October and will be every Tuesday afternoon this half term.

We will begin by exploring the forest in the Year R area.

Please ensure that children have a set of waterproofs and welly boots to be stored on the rack outside their classroom.

Additionally please ensure that they also have a long sleeved top and a pair of long trousers in a draw string bag to be stored on their peg in the corridor.

Key Dates

W/B 5th September—Home Visits

W/B 10th September—part time sessions

W/B 17th September—Children start full days

20th September Reading information evening 3.45pm and 7pm

21st September Inset Day

Open afternoon sessions- 15th-19th October 1.30-3.15pm (more information to follow)

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 a keyring on their book bag to help them identify it easily)
- water bottle (children will be given a water bottle on the home visit, please decorate them so the children can identify them.)
- Home/School communication book. This must be handed to an adult on the door if you have written in them.

If the weather is still warm and sunny, please can we ask that children come to school wearing sun cream and with a sun hat. (As we spend a lot of time outside)

If you would like to come in and help in school please speak to one of the teachers and we would welcome your support. (You will need to complete a DBS check)

Home Learning

Please share and hear your child read their reading book.

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

Year R Team

Pelican Class - Mrs Wersby

Penguin Class - Miss Gelderd

Puffin Class - Mrs Lamb

LSA's Mrs Beecroft, Miss Coughtrey and Mrs Butler

