

Reading Morning

Once the children are settled in their new classes we would like to invite you into school one morning from 8.45am until 9.15am to sit with your child and enjoy some books together. You are welcome to bring a pre-school child with you, but please ensure that they stay with you at all times and are careful with the school equipment.



Stay and Play

Throughout the year there will be opportunities for you to come into school and take part in some activities that are connected to the current topic. You will be always be given plenty of notice for this.

Welcome to Hungerford Primary Academy

Welcome to the Early Years Foundation classes at Hungerford Primary Academy. Entry into full time education marks an important and exciting step in your child's life. There will be lots of new things to learn and, of course, you will want to ensure your child is well prepared for this important event. We aim to make it a happy and memorable experience. We hope that this leaflet will provide some useful information that will help your child settle quickly into school.

Staffing in Reception

Class RAK Teacher: Miss A Kennedy

Class RSJ Teacher: Miss S Jarvis

School Session Times

School starts and the doors open at 8.45am. The school gates are locked at 9.00am. If you arrive late please take your child to the school office to register.

We encourage the children to come in independently and hang up their coats and put their book bags in their tray before sitting quietly on the carpet ready for registration. It is important the children are here on time as arrival after 9.00am is deemed as late or an unauthorised absence.

School finishes at 3.15pm for Reception children. We see each child out of school and hand them over to a known adult. Always inform us if anyone different will be picking up your child.

Please **do not** allow your child, or younger siblings, to play on the outdoor equipment before or after school.



Uniform

As you can imagine with all the children in very similar uniforms it is very easy for them to pick up other children's clothing, and forget where they put their own down!! We do try our best to return clothes to their rightful owner, but when they are not named this can be very hard so...



Please ensure all items of school uniform are clearly named.

In the interest of safety can you ensure that your child does not wear jewellery at school.

Parental Involvement

If any parent, grandparent or guardian is free at any time during the week and thinks they would enjoy working with the children for a session, please let us know. There are a range of activities you can help with, from reading with the children, assisting with their art work, playing with them inside or out! Even an hour of your time can be very helpful and of benefit to the children.

- **Emergencies**-It is essential that the school is informed of any changes to contact numbers. We may need to contact you urgently if your child is ill.
- **Medicines**- There is a separate policy available to view on the school website. To support inclusion medicine can be administered by staff providing a medical form has been completed.
- **Allergies**-Please advise us of any allergies your child may have.
- **Accident Procedures**-Basic First Aid is applied in school. All accidents are recorded in the "Accident Book" and you will receive a note. If your child has had a head injury you will be notified in person or by text.
- **Head lice**-Please could you check your child's hair regularly and inform us of any cases immediately.
- **If your child is absent from school please telephone the school office before 9.00am.**
We are required legally to keep details of absence. If we are not notified of absence then it becomes an unauthorised absence.



Starting School and Settling in

Prior to your child starting school they will have had the opportunity to visit their new class and meet their new teacher.

If your child already attends our pre-school they will visit us during their pre-school session. A stay and play date for all children will follow.

In September the children will start school for half days for the first week. This allows staff to get to know each child personally and enables staff to conduct home visits during other times. Details of your home visit appointment were included in your pack. These are just short, informal visits where you have the chance to tell us about your child and ask any questions you may have.



Preparation for School

The most valuable skills your child can learn before starting school are those relating to his/her personal independence - dressing, undressing, turning clothes the right way around, putting on coats and fastening them and also being able to go to the toilet independently. It has been found that children who can cope with this area of their life easily settle most quickly at school, can organise their own activities, and become confident and independent learners. The staff are sensitive to the needs of the children in these areas and will always give assistance to a child struggling to cope, encouraging independence. The youngest children in particular need more help and it is not expected that children of this age can tie shoe laces at the beginning of the year.



Snack time

Children receive free fruit and milk during the morning. The children should also bring in a bottle of **plain water** with their names clearly labelled. Water bottles are available throughout the school day.

Please no juice.



Dinners

All children are entitled to a free school meal and have the choice of a sandwich lunch or a hot meal each day. You may send in a packed lunch from home if you prefer. If your child is bringing their own packed lunch **ALL** lunch boxes must be clearly named on the outside. We have no cold storage facilities, they are stored in the classroom so putting an ice pack in is a good idea. Please include a drink in your child's lunch box, but no fizzy drinks, glass bottles or breakable flasks. In line with our "Healthy School" policy we encourage the children to make healthy choices about what they eat. Please can you encourage this at home and **not** send in any sweets.

P.E.

The children have weekly P.E. lessons.

They will need to wear a pair of pumps, shorts and a t-shirt and children are permitted to wear these all day.



Outdoor Play and Playtimes

We will be using the outside area in all weathers, as the children have free access to the outside in addition to their playtime, so please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing for the weather and time of year, for example, a coat with a hood and a sun hat in hot weather.

Please try to refrain from disturbing the children at play if you are walking by. This is for security and safety reasons. Children will also have the opportunity to take part in outdoor learning sessions so will need a pair of wellington boots in school at all times. Again, please make sure that they are named.



The Foundation Curriculum

During the day the children will take part in activities covering all aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework, sometimes individually, in small groups or as a whole class.

Play is at the forefront of the framework. Through play your child will be encouraged to learn new skill and practise skills they have already acquired. Play is important for children's all-round physical, emotional, intellectual and social development.

"Well-planned play, both indoors and outdoors, is a key way in which young children learn with enjoyment and challenge".

The Foundation Stage Team plan the curriculum together using the new Early Years Foundation Stage Framework 2021. The Early Learning Goals have been divided into the following:

Prime Areas

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal Social and Emotional Development

The Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design
-

Assessment: The Foundation Stage Profile

During the year all the Foundation Staff are involved in making observations to check your child's progress through the Foundation Stage and towards the Early Learning Goals. Our observations are recorded in your child's online



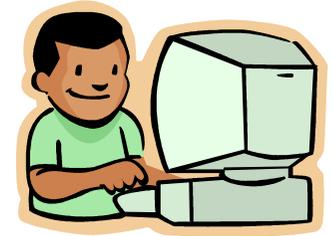
Learning Journey 'Tapestry' which you will be able to access through the individual login details you will be provided with. We will need your email address to register you for this so please ensure

that you have provided this information on the form you have been given.

At the end of the year an assessment will be made to show achievement towards the Early Learning Goals.

The School Day

Once the children are settled, there are some timetabled activities which are introduced gradually. These include:



- joining the rest of the school for assemblies
- dance/drama □ P.E.
- music .

Reading

Book bags need to be in school every day.

The books your child brings home are for you to share and enjoy with your child. We change reading books very regularly, and will record this in their reading diary. Please record your initials or a comment in their diary when you have read at home. This will keep us up to date with their interest and progress.



Commendation Assembly



Every week each class takes part in Commendation Assembly where children who are being celebrated that week will be present a certificate by Mrs Wheaver (Principle) which has been written by the class teacher. This special assembly will take place every Friday.



And finally...

We hope your child has a very happy and settled start to their school life. Please do not hesitate to contact us about any concerns you may have. We are here to help!

Whilst we are available for a quick message in the morning, our main priority is to welcome the children. Therefore, it may be easier to see us after school. If you require a longer discussion we can make an appointment.

Teachers2Parents

To keep you up to date with the latest news / information, school will send you texts directly to your mobile. Please ensure you keep us up to date with your current mobile number, and let us know if you are not receiving the texts.



Hungerford Primary Academy
learn to love and love to learn

**Welcome to
Reception**