



10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Brize Norton Primary School! It has been so lovely to welcome all the children to our Foundation class. The children have had a great week and have settled very well each morning.

This letter is to inform you about what happens during the week and what your child needs to bring into school with them each day. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask at an appropriate time. If I am not available then you can talk to our wonderful teaching assistants Miss Hill or Mrs Mulchahy on Wednesday afternoons.

During your child's Foundation year they will learn mainly through play and independent exploration. They will however have short learning sessions on the carpet for Phonics, Literacy and Maths. These sessions are then followed up with focused activities with an adult. Activities that are set up for the children to play with independently are usually linked to current class topic which is All About Me this term. We will be looking at what makes us special and how we learn through trying new things. The curriculum overview is now available on our class page on the website; this explains in more detail what your child will be looking at this term in each area of learning.

#### Morning snack

We do ask that the children bring in their own snack for morning break time. To help promote healthy eating, this needs to be fruit or vegetables and any snack pots need to be named. Due to allergies in the class please can you avoid sending in kiwi or nut and sesame seed based products. Please also send your child in with a named bottle filled with clean fresh water each morning. Children will also be offered milk (free if under 5). In the afternoon the children can have a piece of fruit or vegetable for snack time, this is supplied to the school for all Foundation children.

#### PE and Forest School

On Monday afternoons the children will be doing Forest School with Mrs Rae. For this day, the children do not need to wear full school uniform. They must wear suitable clothing for Forest School. They need to have their arms and legs covered for full protection. School jumpers need to be worn to school, but please bring another jumper for warmth. When in Forest School, they will need full waterproofs and wellington boots. And as they go onto the grounds during any weather, they need to be wrapped up warm too! Wellington boots will remain at school as we like to use our garden in all weathers so they will need them all week and not just for Forest School. It may also be useful to keep waterproofs in school as well as we do use our garden in all weathers and only have a few spare waterproofs.

On Wednesday afternoons we will be using the hall for our indoor PE session. Children will need a white t-shirt, navy shorts and some indoor trainers although we will be bare foot for some sessions.



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### Reading

In the next couple of weeks your child will be given a reading record as well as a phonics reading book and a story book to share with you. We aim to read with each child at least once a week. Please send your child to school with their reading records and book each day as we can't guarantee which day we will hear your child read. There will be a letter sent out shortly detailing how we teach phonics and this will explain how you can support your child's reading at home.

### Attendance

At the start of this new school year, we would like to remind you of the importance of your child's regular attendance. Our target is 95% because it has been proven that children who attend less than this can suffer damage to their education. 95% attendance is still the equivalent of 2 weeks missed learning over the year. Children who attend fewer than 90% of sessions can find this having a serious impact on their learning, this is equivalent of 4 weeks missed learning, or 100 missed lessons over the year.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this letter. I look forward to working with you this year in promoting your child's happiness and supporting their education and learning.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Lucy Johnson