



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Brize Norton Primary School, it has been so lovely to welcome all the children to our Reception class. The children have had a great couple of weeks 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 partner Miss Hill.

During your child's Reception 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

Children are eligible for fruit/vegetable provision in Reception and this will be offered to the children for their morning snack. Children under 5 are also eligible for milk, this will also be offered as part of their morning snack. If your child would still like milk after they have turned 5 then the school office will advise you on how to order it.

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.

Reading

Very soon your child will be given a reading record as well as a phonics reading book, blending bookmark and a story book to share with you. We aim to listen to each child read 1:1 at least once a week and they will be reading in groups at least twice a week. Please can you send your child to school with their reading records and book each day as this helps us in school. Your child will change their phonics reader once a week and we will let you know which day is your child's 'change day'. There is a separate phonics leaflet which explains in more detail how our new Rocket Phonics scheme works.

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 leaning, 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