



Reception Autumn Term
1st Half

Curriculum Letter

Dear Parents,

We hope you have had a wonderful summer and also hope your children are excited to start their school journey with us. Our learning theme for this half term will be 'All About Me'. This letter is to share with you some key useful information and just some of the lovely things we will be doing in school across the different areas of learning.

Supporting learning at home:

There are a number of ways that you can help at home:

- Encourage children to talk in full sentences and ask/answer questions.
- Help them become more independent – give them opportunities to dress themselves and look after their things.
- Give them regular practice using pencils and crayons and scissors to cut.
- Read lots of books and talk about what you have read.
- Encourage them to finish a task without your help e.g. jigsaw, model, drawing, putting on their coat, tidying up etc.
- Talk about good looking, good listening and good sitting.
- Allow them to fill their own time and make choices in their play.
- Make sure they are used to 'having a go' before asking for help.
- Encourage them to dress and undress themselves independently.
- Recognise their own belongings and find things for themselves.
- Listen to others and take turns.
- To try and use a knife and fork independently.
- Share a book with your child every day and record this in their reading record when they bring them home. We would love the children to access a range of genres in their reading at home, including poetry, non-fiction and fiction.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 7th September 2023– Group 1 in 8.45am – 12.45pm Group 2 in 1.30pm – 3.15pm

Friday 8th September 2023 – Group 2 in 8.45am – 12.45pm Group 1 in 1.30pm – 3.15pm

Monday 11th September - All children in full time. 'Teas and Tissues' : Stop for an informal chat, tea, coffee and biscuits on the first morning drop off.

8.30-8.45am. Registration

3.15pm. Collection on front playground.

22nd September – Reception Welcome Service – St Peter's Church, Barford.

27th September – 5pm Reception Parents Phonics and Tapestry meeting

29th September – MacMillan Coffee morning – information to follow.

6th October- Harvest Service

25th & 26th October – Parents Evenings

27st October – INSET Day – school closed.

Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November - Half Term - school closed

Autumn 2 begins Monday 6th November 2023

To support learning in class we have 5 'learning pets' (toys) which will from time to time come home with your child. Each pet has a specific learning characteristic skill, which is introduced through a little story book. In the pet bag, there is also a diary for you to stick in, draw or write about your child's experiences from their visit. We then share these in class on a Monday and Friday when the pets are shared and redistributed during our talk time. If you know of exciting family events when it would be good to have a pet visit (weddings, visits out etc.), please let us know and we will try to send one home so your child can return from their visit and talk about their experiences.

Please only use book bags for books and reading diaries and not water bottles. Only water not squash is permitted in school and we would be grateful if you would support us with this rule.

Your child will be offered the opportunity to borrow a class library book today. Please make sure it is their bag for Monday when they will be changed again.

Please send in wellies as soon as possible so that we can start introducing the children to our outside school grounds (initially in small groups). Once the children have settled, Forest School will take place weekly on a **Thursday**. Children should come to school dressed in their school top and jumper with leggings or tracksuit bottoms to keep warm and protect themselves. Please can the children come to school in their school shoes and bring appropriate clothing with wellies, waterproofs and warm gloves and hats during the cold weather is necessary. **Please put forest school items in a draw string bag and not a rucksack as we have very limited cloakroom space.** Wellies can be left at school for ease or taken home each week for use at home. Unfortunately, children not wearing the appropriate clothing will not participate in Forest School activities for their own safety.

Please note our P.E. days will be on a **Wednesday and Thursday**. Children will come into school in their school uniform and will change into their P.E. kit as part of the lesson. P.E. kits will remain in school and will be sent home half termly to wash or sooner if required.

Toileting accidents are common during a child's first year in school. Children get immersed in play and can forget to go in time! We always have fresh clothes in class ready for accidents. If your child may be prone to toileting accidents, please do send in a change of their own uniform clothes to be kept on their peg if you feel this will reduce upset and stress.

We are very proud of how all of the children have started school this week. If you have any questions, then please don't hesitate to get in touch. For urgent matters and those relating to child collection, please call the school office. For less urgent issues, please contact Mrs Hurlock on our class email:

reception@barfordstpeters.co.uk

I will endeavour to reply within 48 hours.

Mrs Hurlock
Reception Class Teacher

Personal, Social and Emotional Development



New beginnings
Class rules and routines
Supporting children to build relationships
Dreams and goals
Sharing and taking turns
Show an understanding of their own feelings and those of others.

Communication and Language



Settling in activities,
Making friends
Children talking about experiences that are familiar to them
Learnin pets discussion time.
This is me! Sharing facts about me
Rhyming and alliteration

Physical Development



FINE MOTOR
Threading, cutting, weaving and manipulating playdough. Draw lines and circles.
GROSS MOTOR
Cooperation games
Climbing on the outdoor equipment.
Changing for P.E. and good personal hygiene.

Literacy



Joining in rhymes and showing an interest in stories with repeated refrains.
Having a favourite story/rhyme.
Understanding that print has meaning and purpose.
Sequencing familiar stories
Learning new vocabulary.
Reading initial sounds
Dominant hand, using a tripod grip, names, labels, captions.

Maths



Counting rhymes and songs
Count and represent the numbers 1 to 5
Ordering objects and sets
Matching equal and unequal sets
Comparing objects and sets
Number recognition
2D shapes
Recognise, describe, copy and extend patterns
Estimate and check by counting

R.E.



Learning and celebrating Harvest festival.
Which people are special and why?
Talk about people who are special to them
Identify some of the qualities of a good friend.
Recall and talk about stories of Jesus as a friend to others.
Recall a story about a special person in Sikhism.

Understanding the World



Identifying their family
Talk about what they do with their family and places they have been
Talk about members of their community
Navigating the classroom, school and outdoor spaces.
Long ago- how time has changed.
Listen and talk about past birthday celebrations

Expressive Arts and Design



Join in with songs,
Beginning to mix colours
Join in with role play games
Build models using construction equipment.
Sing call- and -respond songs
Self portraits
Exploring sounds and how it can be changed
Tapping out simple rhythms.