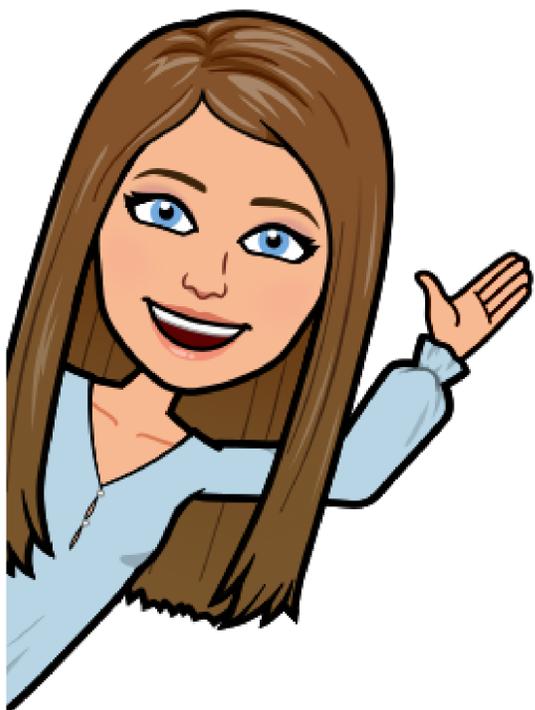




Miss Fell's Fledglings Nursery and
Reception Class

WELCOME TO MY CLASSROOM

Transition Support Booklet



This booklet will tell you all about our class, if you have any more questions please feel welcome to come and ask one of the Reception team at any time. We are always happy to help.

Adults in Our Class



Miss Fell
Class Teacher



Miss Shannon
Class TA



Mrs Jocelyn
Class TA

Key Workers

These are the adults your child will see in their classroom on a daily basis. Your child will have a key person. A key person has special responsibilities from working with a small number of children, giving them the reassurance to feel safe and cared for and building relationships with their parents. Your child will have a Tapestry account with details of your child's key person.

Starting Fledglings

Starting Nursery or Reception is an exciting time for children and we aim to make it as happy as possible. To allow children time to settle in, everybody will receive their own start date. We gradually increase the number of children each day until everybody has been admitted. You will be contacted via email the week before school starts to share starter information.

At the beginning of the year for the Fledglings class we invite parents and carers to bring their child into class and help them to find their peg and name card for self-registration. By the end of the first half term when children have settled in, we encourage Reception children to line up and go into class themselves.

Start dates and inviting parents into the classroom is subject to change should the Covid19 crisis continue and upon updated government guidance.

Fledglings parents can come up to the Classroom door (by the cabin area) to pick up at the close of the day which allows a better opportunity for handover with staff, rather than in the morning.

What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?

The Early Years Foundation Stage (E.Y.F.S.) is the stage of education for children from birth to the end of the Reception year. It is based on the recognition that children learn best through play and active learning. In our Early Years classroom our Montessori approach and ethos underpins and compliments the statutory curriculum. The Early Years Foundation stage is made up of 3 Prime and 4 Specific areas of learning and development.

In the Fledglings class children will have a range of planned, purposeful play through a mix of adult-led and child-initiated learning experiences in both the indoor and outdoor environments. The way in which a child engages with other people and their environment; playing and exploring, active learning and creating and thinking critically underpin learning and development across all areas and support the child to remain and become an effective and motivated learner.

Prime Areas

Communication and Language

This involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment, to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves and to speak and listen in a range of situations.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This area involves helping children to develop positive senses of themselves and others ; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others. To develop social skills and to learn how to manage their feelings; to have confidence in their own abilities.



Physical Development

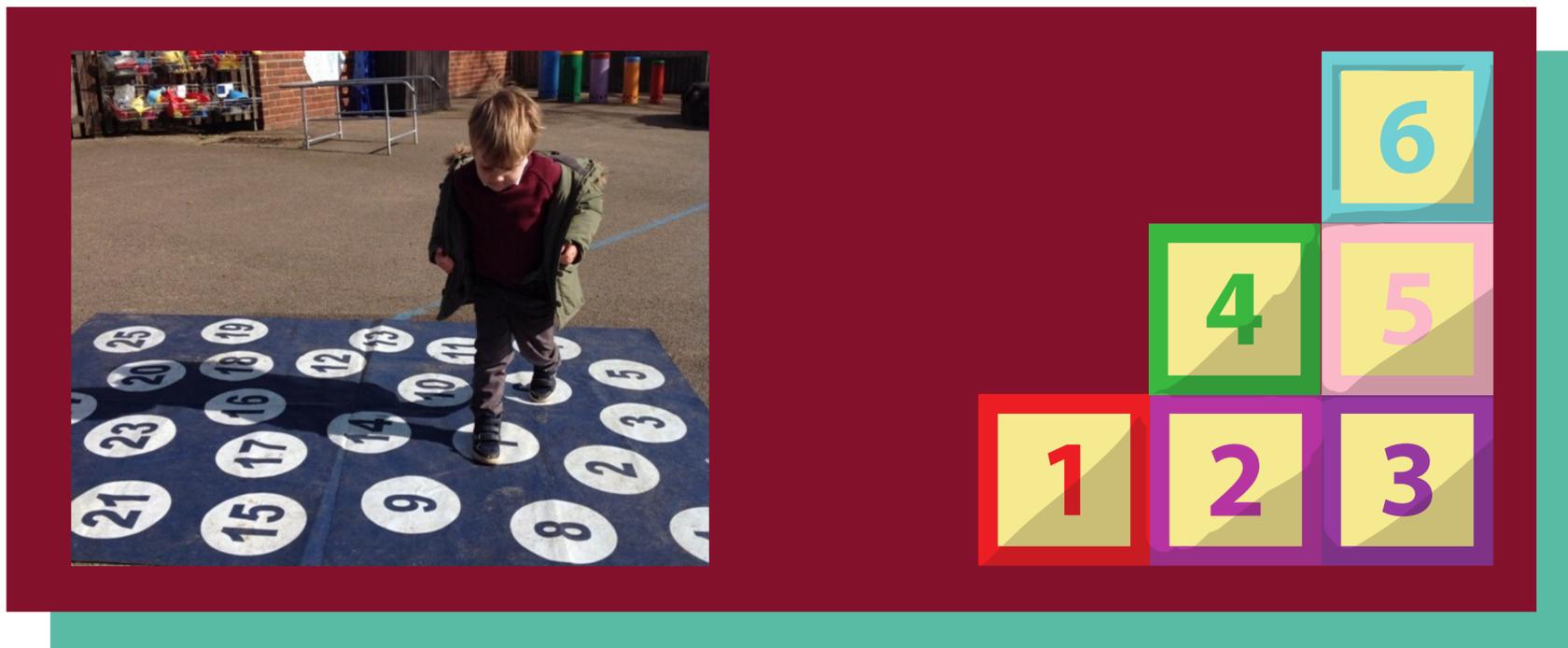
Physical development provides opportunities for children to be active and interactive and to develop their coordination, control and movement. Children will also learn to make healthy choices in relation to food and begin to understand the importance of physical activity.



Specific Areas

Mathematics

Children's maths is developed through everyday practical experiences to develop their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple additions and subtraction problems and learning about shape, space and measures.



Literacy.

This area involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and begin to write. Children have access to a wide range of reading materials to ignite their interest.



Understanding the World

In this area of learning, children are making sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and their environment.



Expressive Art and Design

This area involves enabling children to explore and play with a range of materials. Providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings, through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play and design and technology.



The Montessori approach means.....

Children are given the freedom to make independent choices in the prepared classroom environment, choosing their work and their materials, dependent upon individual abilities.

Children develop at their own pace, repeating activities as often as necessary and as a result they are able to reach each developmental milestone as and when they are ready.

Through the use of practical life activities children learn how to independently carry out activities required to live their daily lives, whilst also improving their focus and concentration levels in preparation for more structured academic work later in the year.

All classroom materials are multi-sensory and have a built in control of error, allowing children to correct their own mistakes, further contributing to their independence.

Children learn to care for their environment by putting away materials they have been using and caring for plants - showing respect for their surroundings and for other children.



The First Few Weeks

For the first few weeks of the new term children will be learning new routines and settling in. This will give us the opportunity to get to know your child, what they already know and where their interests lie. This will help us to develop individual learning plans for each child. We would value any contributions you would like to make to help us get to know your child better and identify their needs.

You will be invited in to a parent meeting in October to discuss progress.

Our Daily Schedule - Autumn Term

9.00-9.05 - Handover and registration (Gates to be locked at 9.15)

9.05-9.30 - Group Time (Good Morning, schedule, calendar, Montessori resource)

9.30-9.50 Phonics Session (whole school)

9.50-11.30 - Independent Work Cycle, to include rolling snack (key workers working with small groups and observing the children's learning)

11.30-12.00 - Group Time (Story, Singing, Music)

12.00-1.15 - Whole school lunch time

1.15-1.45 - Relaxation/Reading

1.45-2.15 - Theme Session

2.15-3.10 - Free flow

3.10-3.30 - Story Time and handover

This schedule will change slightly in the Spring Term to reflect the needs of the children as they develop.

Literacy and phonics at Anstey.

Children will listen to stories at least once a day as part of the daily routine. These stories will be discussed as a group to confirm the children's understanding and extend their language skills. Phonics teaching is currently taught through the very successful "Letters and Sounds" synthetic phonics programme. The teaching of phonics is a combination of the actions taught in Jolly Phonics and the games identified in Letters and Sounds. We also use the Montessori materials and the use of interactive phonics games to support our children to learn phonics.

Montessori materials focus on listening to key sounds using sound pouches, associating the sound with their symbol using Sandpaper letters and "writing" using the Movable Alphabet.



Maths at Anstey.

Maths in the early years will be taught predominantly using Montessori materials as they give a concrete representation of maths concepts (including shape) and the decimal system.

The decimal system is also indirectly introduced when children work with pouring activities and Sensorial materials. Children seem to be particularly drawn to using the Montessori maths materials as they are beautiful to look at and to touch.

As children develop, the Montessori maths materials presented will gradually become more abstract.



Forest School and PE

Fledglings have their PE session on a Wednesday afternoon. Our Nursery children will only need a change of shoes as we do not expect them to fully change clothes for PE yet. Our Reception children are required to change for PE (please see joining us booklet for kit).

On Friday our Fledglings class have a Forest School session in all weather. Parents are asked to provide a forest school kit to include wellies, waterproofs (top and bottoms), hat, gloves, scarf and an extra layer if needed pending weather.

PE and Forest School kits can be taken home termly for washing and cleaning.

Relaxation/Reading time

Each afternoon our children take part in whole class relaxation. Often times children will listen to a story being read by staff, audio story or a children's guided relaxation. We find that 20-30 minutes of calm time helps children learn to refine their self-regulation skills, support development of imagination and just generally rest. Often this relaxation can help to cement the morning learning and activities in the brain. Some children will doze off, especially our younger children in the beginning of learning to navigate longer school days. Please let us know if you prefer your child doze no longer than our relaxation. At times, with our older children, this will be a time when our teachers can do 1:1 reading sessions with children and change reading books.



Lunch Times

Our Reception children will be eating with the whole school in the village hall next to the school, which we use to serve our dinners. Our Nursery pupils enjoy their lunch in a smaller setting in the classroom and are joined by our preschool children and staff. Children who bring their lunch from home are encouraged to bring a healthy lunch. We would ask that you do not pack chocolate or sweets and to also cut foods that are common choking hazards such as grapes or sausages. If your child stays for the afternoon they will play in the supervised designated area for early years over the lunch break.

If your child is picked up at 1.15 they will be at the back gate (nearest the village hall) with staff. We ask that parents try their best to be prompt for pick up. Please call our office if you should be delayed for any reason.

Snack Times

Snacks are provided daily for children. We use this as a practice in being independent encouraging them to make snack choices and prepare their own snack, pour their drinks and wash up on their own. Parents are asked to pay £20 for snacks for the year. We try to make sure we have a variety of textures and tastes for the children to try.



Homework

Reception children will be provided with a reading book and reading record. We encourage children to read every night and for a comment to be written in the reading record. Children should bring in their reading book and record to School everyday and books will be changed weekly.

Gradually over the year Reception children will be able to complete activities at home to support their learning in School.

Supporting your child's learning at home

- Encourage them to get dressed themselves and manage their own personal hygiene as much as possible.
- Talk to your child about what they have done at school, their interests and about everyday activities.
- Share stories with your child and once they start to bring reading books home, listen to your child read and talk about what they have read.
- Use every day experiences as appropriate opportunities for counting- climbing the stairs, laying the table, shopping etc.



A unique child and inclusive practice

All learning experiences are provided to give both boys and girls equal opportunities to play and to develop their full potential. Gender and racial stereotypes are challenged and resources are used which promote quality and diversity. Children have a right to develop their personalities, talents and abilities irrespective of ethnicity, culture or religion, home language, family background, learning difficulties, disabilities or gender.

Top Tips for Starting Fledglings

- It is useful to keep a set of spare clothes on your child's peg in case of accidents.
- In Winter bring in wellies so that your child can play on the grass
- Bring in one named water bottle- These will be left outside and children will have access to a jug of water inside the classroom.
- Please name everything, including shoes.
- If your child would prefer to wear slippers indoors please provide these.
- Observations of your child will be carried out weekly and will be available on Tapestry.
- Children will be encouraged to bring in items from home which are related to nature or a current topic to "share" with the group. We ask children to keep toys and precious belongings at home- it can be very upsetting when things get lost or broken.
- Fledglings staff are always happy to help so please feel free to ask us any questions or queries you may have, the end of the school day is usually best.



We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you into Fledglings soon.