

WELCOME TO THE FOUNDATION STAGE AT HEADLANDS



MEET THE EYFS TEAM . . .

Teachers:

- ▶ Miss Tibbot EYFS Manager and Reception Class Teacher could be Mrs Chappelhow - wedding dependent.
- ▶ Miss Carter - Reception class Teacher
- ▶ Miss Scott - Currently on Maternity Leave - Nursery Class Teacher
- ▶ Miss Wilson - Covering Nursery Class

Additional educational support staff:

- ▶ Mrs Wilby - Nursery
- ▶ Mrs Thewliss - Nursery
- ▶ Miss Pearce - Nursery
- ▶ Mrs Igo - Reception
- ▶ Miss Smith - Reception
- ▶ Mrs Timmins - Reception

THE EARLY YEARS

FOUNDATION STAGE CLASSROOM

Classroom Set up

- ▶ 60 children split between two classrooms Acorns and Catkins - Classes split evenly on gender, birthdays and nursery settings.
- ▶ Register is on your child's class carpet, however, children are taught by all staff from both classrooms as they are grouped accordingly for phonics and maths and play in all spaces.
- ▶ All children access both Acorn's and Catkin's classrooms to explore and play as well as the wet bay area and the outside area.
- ▶ A usual day in Reception will consist of a mixture of whole class carpet sessions, small group focused activities and supported play.

What is meant by play?

- ▶ Play and explore (curiosity)
- ▶ Active Learning (being involved)
- ▶ Creating and thinking critically (making links)
- ▶ The classroom environment is set up to support the children to continue the learning by practising what they learnt through carpet session's in their own play.

What is the adult's role?

- ▶ Specific learning intention - providing children with the opportunities to practise skills.
- ▶ Scaffold learning by questioning and extending learning and thought whilst playing alongside.

AREAS OF LEARNING...

Your child will be learning skills, acquiring new knowledge and demonstrating their understanding through **seven areas of learning and development**.

Children should mostly develop the **three prime areas** first.

These are:

- ▶ **Communication and Language** - Speaking, Listening and Understanding
- ▶ **Physical Development** - Moving and Handling, Health and Self Care.
- ▶ **Personal, Social and Emotional Development** - Making Relationships, Self Confidence and Awareness, Managing Feelings and Behavior

These prime areas are those most essential for your child's healthy development and future learning and need to be imbedded before moving on to specific areas of learning.

CONTINUED...

As children grow and develop, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in **four specific areas**.

These are:

- ▶ **Literacy** - Reading, Writing.
- ▶ **Mathematics** - Number, Shape Space and Measure.
- ▶ **Understanding the World** - The World, People and Communities, Technology.
- ▶ **Expressive Arts and Design** - Being Imaginative, Exploring and Using Media and Materials.

THE EARLY YEARS BASELINE

First 6 weeks of Reception:

- ▶ The most important part of the first 6 weeks is to build up strong relationships and bonds with the children. We do this by playing with the children as well as reading stories, signing songs and playing games.
- ▶ At Headlands we compile our own baseline as part of our ongoing 'good practice' in the first few weeks.
- ▶ This includes, for example, games and general observations to find out what the children know and can already do.
- ▶ This year it is likely that we will carry out the government baseline assessment. This will be a non intrusive assessment - where the children sit with an adult 1:1 and take part in some games.
- ▶ We will use this information to plan the next steps in each child's learning journey.
- ▶ For any children with additional needs, the baseline assessment will be modified to ensure it is suitable and relevant.

ENSURING A SMOOTH TRANSITION

Autumn Term:

- ▶ Play based learning curriculum linked to various topics as well as child-initiated learning
- ▶ Whole class circle times and carpet sessions.
- ▶ Introduction of group working for focused activities.
- ▶ Start phonics teaching.

Spring Term:

- ▶ Play based learning curriculum - environment enhanced continually to match this
- ▶ Building confidence and independence
- ▶ More focused activities for writing and number.

Summer Term:

- ▶ Transition to more structure with more focused activities after carpet sessions in preparation for Year One along side play.

REPORTING TO PARENTS & SEN

- ▶ Progress is continually assessed in the early years. We make observations from play and focussed tasks using Evidence Me app. Your child's progress is assessed against what age band they are working in for each area of learning.
- ▶ We share your child's progress half termly - we usually would invite you into your child's class to look at their learning work book and learning journey. We will have to monitor the current situation to see if we are able to do this.
- ▶ We will host parent consultation meetings in the Autumn term and Spring Term. There will be a written report in the Summer as well as an opportunity to meet your child's teacher again if you want to discuss the report at the end of the year.
- ▶ If you are worried about any stage of your child's development please do speak to us especially if you are worried about a possible special educational need, speech and language or disability that your child may have.
- ▶ We have an open door policy so please ask us any questions and voice any concerns or worries you may have.

HOME-SCHOOL LINKS

We will be working together for your child.

This will be of course dependent on the most recent government guidance.

COMMUNICATION is key:

- ▶ Send your child with their book bag daily
- ▶ Make a comment in your child's reading diary 5x weekly- your child will get a non word book that they have to retell back to you - if your child is a reader already we will give them a simple book within the first few weeks.
- ▶ Use the pink home-school diary to keep us updated - We will tell you what your child has been learning about in school via a letter in this book each week and you can write in it to share what you have been doing at home.
- ▶ Speak to your child's teacher/or any member of EYFS team if you need support.
- ▶ Sometimes we send out text meesgaes as reminders
- ▶ Ensure we have all the information we need to support you and your child - particularly in relation to Special Educational Needs and/or Disability
- ▶ All children learn differently and progress at different rates, especially in the early years
- ▶ Our door is always open

SCHOOL UNIFORM:

- ▶ White/royal blue polo shirt
- ▶ Grey trousers/skirt/shorts
- ▶ Royal Blue cardigan or jumper
- ▶ White/Grey socks
- ▶ Dark shoes, preferably black
- ▶ We use Rawcliffes (Dewsbury) or www.myclothing.com

In addition...

- ▶ PE kit to be kept in a bag on your child's peg all half-term
- ▶ Wellies to be kept in school all the time
- ▶ Waterproof trousers and a waterproof coat or an all in one will be needed every Wednesday for Welly Wednesday.
- ▶ Water bottles to come into school each day.

BIRTHDAYS:

Treats

We ask that if it is your child's birthday, and you wish your child to celebrate with their friends, that you -

- ▶ First of all consider a healthy option.
- ▶ - Secondly, only send in the amount for your child's class, which is 30.
- ▶ - Thirdly, know that if you do decide to send in sweets, that each child is only going to have one small sweet e.g. one jelly baby.

****Please consider that we have many children who do not eat gelatine****

Party Invitations

- ▶ Having a party is a very exciting time for some children. During a school year we are asked to hand out many party invitations. As you can imagine this is quite time consuming, so we ask that you try to hand out the party invitations with your child before or after school. If you find this difficult, your child can hand them out at the end of the school day themselves. Please do be mindful that some children may not receive a party invitation all year and it can be a little upsetting for them. Where possible, we ask you to be as inclusive as you can.

FIRST AID:

- ▶ Designated first aiders in EYFS
- ▶ Reception book to record all incidents during class time.
- ▶ Dinner time book for the playground when mixing.
- ▶ Notes home - slip of paper for grazes, cuts and bumps.
- ▶ Phone calls home - For larger bumps to head with raised marks.
- ▶ Plasters are used in school - Children are asked if they usually have one put on at home.
- ▶ Medication - We only are able to give medication if it is prescribed 4 times a day. It must have a doctors or pharmacy sticker on it with name and dosage on it. A medical form has to be filled in. Please drop off all medicine at the school office as this is where it is kept. (see school policy)
- ▶ If your child has asthma or needs an inhaler this must be prescribed by the doctor and we must have an inhaler in school at all times. An asthma form must be filled out.

LUNCHES:

- ▶ All children from Reception to the end of KS1 are entitled to 'universal free school meals'.
- ▶ During the first 4 weeks Miss Tibbot and Miss Carter stay with the children in the hall during dinner time to support them. After dinner they stay as a Reception unit to play in the EYFS playground until around week 5 when they play with KS1.
- ▶ We monitor how your Child/Children are eating in the first 4 weeks and will talk to you if we have any concerns.
- ▶ Free school milk for children up to the age of 5.
- ▶ If you want your child to continue to have milk there will be a cost, information will be in the pack sent home.
- ▶ Fresh fruit is provided daily.
- ▶ Fresh water is available in school so please send in a named water bottle for your child.

PUPIL PREMIUM:

- ▶ Is a vital source of funding for the school and enables us to offer additional benefits for your child
- ▶ For families on a low income or in receipt of certain benefits
- ▶ If you think you would be eligible please apply online through the Kirklees website
- ▶ This has been very important during lockdown as those families who are pupil premium have been provided with food vouchers for children's lunches.
- ▶ All Pupil Premium children benefit from having the full cost of school trips, including residential trips, paid for by the school and a free Headlands sweatshirt this year and every following year.
- ▶ Irrespective of if you think you are entitled to pupil premium funding, anyone who has handed in their pupil premium form to the school office will receive a free school book bag.

ATTENDANCE:

- ▶ Please ensure a good attendance. Attendance that begins to drop will be monitored closely and meetings will be attended.
- ▶ We understand that children become ill and if they do please report this by telephoning **every morning by 9am** to the school office that they are off school.
- ▶ First day absence procedures involve the school office needing to speak to an adult before 10.00am. If no contact is made a home visit is likely to be made.
- ▶ Term time holidays will not be authorised.
- ▶ Penalty notice fines may be imposed.

BEHAVIOUR

- ▶ To enable all children to learn, we encourage good behaviour through a system of positive, assertive discipline. In Reception we have a traffic light. Everyone starts on green and strives to go up to silver or gold where they receive super prizes and rewards.
- ▶ If a child receives multiple warnings they will move down to the yellow or red and will be given time out, will miss playtime and for serious or consistent breaking of the school rules, a child will have to visit a member of the senior management team.
- ▶ In Reception we also have a whole class pasta pot and if we fill it to the top we get a pasta party.
- ▶ In line with school policy, we use 'golden time' across school.
- ▶ Golden time is a special treat and the children enjoy it as they get to do all sorts of fun activities, such as baking, gardening, circle time games, puppet making, hamma beads, to name but a few. A child starts out with all golden time and if they get a yellow or red card in reception they lose time (We usually start this in the Spring term)
- ▶ At playtime if a child physically hurts another child they have to come inside and have time out in a designated cool down area in school.

ROAD SAFETY:

- ▶ Keeping our children safe on the roads is of utmost importance
- ▶ We encourage you, if you can, to walk to school
- ▶ You may park on the road outside of school but please be mindful of local residents and pedestrians
- ▶ Car parks are reserved for staff only. Disabled badge holders only may access the allocated spaces in the front carpark

TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS:

As this year has been different to any before due to the pandemic. Transition arrangements have needed to be changed accordingly in line with government guidelines.

- ▶ Miss Tibbot has phoned all parents of new starters to make contact and discuss their children and any specific needs.
- ▶ The office staff will have sent out an information pack by post, some of which will need to be returned to the school office along with your child's birth certificate.
- ▶ Miss Tibbot will make every attempt to contact your child's nursery, childminder or private day setting. This will help us to to get to know your child further.
- ▶ If your child has a disability or an educational need please contact our inclusion manager Mrs Cowling via the school office to discuss further.

SEPTEMBER ARRANGEMENTS:

September:

Monday 7th & Tuesday 8th September - parent meetings.

In your welcome pack you have been provided with a date and time for you to meet your child's class teacher. This is an important meeting for parent's only and will take place in school. Due to the nature of discussions children are not invited to attend this meeting. This is a great opportunity for you to gain information and ask any questions. We encourage parents to make every effort to attend. We look forward to meeting you.

Wednesday 9th, Thursday 10th, Friday 11th September - children will be allocated a group either A or B.

Group A children will attend mornings between 9.00 - 11.30.

Group B children will attend afternoons between 12.30 - 3.00.

Children will not be staying for lunch on these days.

During week commencing Monday 14th September

All children will be in full time from 8.50am and we will open the doors early from 3.00pm to help quicken pick up. By week commencing 21st pick up will be at 3.10.

A SUMMER PROJECT:

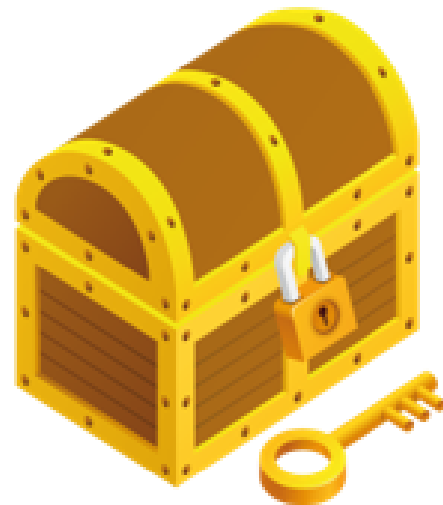
Dear Parents,

We hope your child has enjoyed watching the meet the teacher video and we look forward to seeing them hopefully in September.

As a project to keep you busy in the holidays, we ask that you help your child create a memory box about themselves and their summer holiday. It can be decorated on the outside and can include pictures of their family, leaflets, shells and pebbles from a walk or any object that is special to them ect. The children will bring these in on their first day and we will share them with the class. We will share these boxes in the first few weeks of school.

We thank you for your continued support,

Miss Tibbot and Miss Carter 😊



NEARLY THERE...

- ▶ It is usual for there to be a few tears shed...by the children, mum and dad... as well as us!
- ▶ We have experience of children becoming upset and this is not usually long lasting.
- ▶ Sometimes it is better for the child to be left so not to prolong the upset.
- ▶ A telephone call will ease any worries.
- ▶ If you have any questions please do get in touch...

FRIENDS OF HEADLANDS:

- ▶ A fantastic way to meet new people.
- ▶ Become part of your school community
- ▶ Become involved in the organisation and running of school events.
- ▶ Help support school by raising money.
- ▶ Fun
- ▶ Social

AND FINALLY...

If you have not returned the paper work from your welcome pack please do so asap - Thank you

