



Meltham CE Primary School
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Interim Headteacher Mrs Davies

Autumn Curriculum Newsletter 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome to Foundation Stage at Meltham CE Primary School!

The children have settled into their new classes exceptionally well and we are really looking forward to our autumn-inspired learning.

The topics that we will be looking at this half term are 'All about me', 'Owl babies' by Martin Waddell and the whole school book 'In Our Hands' by Lucy Farfort. In Literacy, we are learning to recognise and write our full names, mark make with meaning and purpose and to confidently communicate with adults and peers about our own experiences. In maths, we are looking at recognising numbers, ordering numbers and amounts of objects and touch counting correctly. We will be sharing books with the children and discussing the features of them e.g. title, blurb, author, illustrations. The children have lots of opportunities to explore and play in a variety of different areas. Through play, the children will learn how to share, take turns and play cooperatively with others.

Curriculum meeting

You are invited to our Foundation Stage curriculum meeting on **Thursday 5th October**. This will take place at school in our main hall at 6pm. This is chance for us to let you know what your child will be learning about and how you can support your child in Foundation Stage.

Reading books

Exciting news! We aim to begin sending reading books home within the next couple of weeks. We will change your child's reading book on the following days:

Red group – Monday

Orange group – Tuesday

Yellow group – Wednesday

Green group – Thursday

Blue group – Friday

Read with your child daily, write the date and a comment in the yellow reading diary and keep their book in their book bag each day. To start, your child may receive a 'talk about' book. This is a book without words. They are designed to allow the child to tell a story through their own words. Lots of conversation is encouraged between the adult and child in order for the child to demonstrate a good understanding of the story through pictures. In class, your child may have a different reading book which they will read to the adults in school.

Reading Champions/Home Reading

It is a good idea to start getting into the habit of a regular daily reading time, and writing in the yellow diaries, as after the half term holidays we will be starting 'Reading Champions'. The children will then be working towards achieving 30 reads before the Christmas holidays. Each time a 'read' is recorded in your yellow reading diary (max 2 per day), it will be counted on our class chart. If your child reaches 30 reads in the half term, they will be celebrated in our 'Reading Champions' assembly in the last week of term, and they will receive a smart certificate and a much coveted furry reading bug. The idea behind Reading Champions is to emphasize how vital it is to read daily and to foster a love of stories and books that will last a lifetime.

I wonder who will be the first on our class chart to reach 30 reads!

PE

PE sessions will be starting on a **Wednesday** from **Wednesday 20th September**.

We are asking that your child attends school each **Wednesday of this half term in a **dark blue or black plain zip up hoodie, a plain white t-shirt, plain dark blue or black jogging bottoms and running trainers.****

PE is a great opportunity for the children to take part in games, use sports equipment and development explore, play cooperatively and experience another aspect of school life.

All About Me topic – Me Box

For our topic 'All About Me', we have a series of 'Show and Tell' sessions, where the children have the chance to share with the class a little bit about themselves. The children can decorate a shoe box (or similar) at home, and fill it with 5 or 6 special items which they can confidently talk about to the class. These could include items related to;

- My family

- My pets
- My favourite foods / place
- My favourite hobbies / music
- My special things (e.g. special clothes, baby items, cuddly toy etc)

Please bring the completed 'Me Box' into school on Monday 2nd October 2023

We will Show and Tell the boxes over a few days and send them home when complete. We are looking forward to seeing them!

Welly Day

Each year group will participate in a Welly Day once a term. Our Welly Day will be on **Wednesday 11th October**. Our whole year group will spend the day together exploring our grounds, making autumn crafts and learning lots about the change in the season. On this day, your child will need to come dressed in their outdoor PE kit. Please also bring waterproof trousers/puddlesuit, a warm, waterproof coat and of course, wellies. We will post lots of pictures of our Welly Day on Twitter.

Stay and Play

Each term we enjoy inviting our grown-ups into our classrooms to see the exciting things we get up to! There will be lots of activities for you to have a go at and anything you make, you can take home! We ask that a maximum of two adults per child attend as we have a limited amount of space. Class 1's Stay and Play will be on Wednesday 8th November and Class 2's Stay and Play will be on Thursday 9th November. Please arrive at the main entrance slightly before 2.15pm to sign in.

Water bottles

It's thirsty work in Foundation Stage so please ensure your child has a **NAMED** water bottle containing **WATER** each day.

Naming belongings

Please ensure all items of clothing and footwear are clearly **named** and **recognisable** to your child.

Twitter/Communication

You can keep up to date with all our activities and news by following us on Twitter @foundmelthamce. We tweet frequently, and it is a wonderful way for you to see what we are up to in Early Years.

'Headlines' is the whole school newsletter which is emailed out to parents. Please make sure you have the Spider app and check frequently to be aware of reminders and also our Curriculum newsletters each term.

Dates for your diary:

Date:	Event:
Wednesday 11 th October	Foundation Stage Welly Day/PE Day
Monday 2 nd October	Me Boxes into school
Thursday 5 th October	Individual and family Tempest school photographs
Thursday 5 th October	Curriculum Information Evening 6pm
Thursday 3 rd November	PE begins each Thursday
Wednesday 8 th November	class 1 Stay and Play 2.15pm
Thursday 9 th November	class 2 Stay and Play 2.15pm
Date to be confirmed	Foundation Stage Nativity Performance 9.15am

Please feel free to ask if you have any queries or problems.

- nicola.mottram1@kirkleeseducation.uk Class 2 (Tuesday-Friday)
rebecca.myers@kirkleeseducation.uk Class 2 (Monday/Wednesday)
emma.wimpenny@kirkleeseducation.uk Class 1 (Monday to Friday)

Thank you for your continued support
 The Foundation Stage team.

Class Teachers and Educational Teaching Assistants
 Class 1 – Ms. Wimpenny, Mrs Spittlehouse, Mrs Needham
 Class 2 – Mrs. Mottram, Mrs. Charlton & Mrs Halliwell
 PPA Teachers – Mrs. Stier (Class 1) Mrs. Myers (Class 2)

