



Whiteknights

Growing Greatness

Whiteknights Primary School

Fairlawn Green, Shinfield Rise,

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Headteacher: Mrs B Reynolds

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are delighted to welcome you and your child/ren to Whiteknights. It is such an exciting time for your family, as it's your child's first year in full-time statutory education. With this new chapter beginning, I am sure you still have many questions, so we hope you find this letter informative.

What does my child need to bring into school with them?

- A Whiteknights book bag with their reading record inside every day (the school will provide a reading record when the children brings home a decodable book).
- A water bottle with fresh water daily.
- Spare uniform, including underwear and socks in a plastic bag.
- Appropriate clothing- coats on cold days and sunhats on hot days.
- PE kit, in a Whiteknights PE drawstring bag weekly.

To give you a clearer picture of what we are learning in the coming term, we have attached an outline of the topics that we will teach and the books we will be reading. In addition, we have set out a few reminders that will help the term run smoothly and enable your child to make the best possible progress with their learning.

Early Years is an incredibly important year for all children, as the progress they make in their Early development sets them up as life-long learners. Therefore, the expectations for home learning are as follows:

Reading: We expect the children to read at home every day with an adult, as this is an imperative routine to embed. Initially, we would expect you to read a story every day to your child. Your child will have access to a range of storybooks or you can read books you have at home or from the library. Once you have been provided a reading record we would expect you to write in their daily. It **must** be kept in their book bag and brought into school every day. Once your child can securely read the first 16 sounds, we will provide you with a decodable book each week for the children to read to you.

PE: Children **must** bring their PE kit to school every Monday. Our PE day is Wednesday; however, our PE day can change depending on the weather. The children will wear their PE kit home after every session to be washed ready for the following Monday. Trainers must be included, and when the weather is warmer, pupils must wear black shorts and a white school PE shirt (these can be purchased from the school office). However, when the weather is colder, pupils must wear dark coloured tracksuit bottoms with a dark coloured (unbranded) hoody/ sweater.

As dressing is an aspect of the Early Years curriculum we will be encouraging the children to change and look after their clothes as independently as they can, so **every** item of clothing **must** be named.



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Spare Clothes: Please ensure your child has a spare set of uniform including knickers or pants in a carrier bag that stays on their peg every day. This is in case they get dirty/ wet or have a toileting accident. If they do not have any spare clothes and borrow uniform from school, it all needs to be washed and returned to school as soon as possible.

Curiosity Corner!

Last academic year, Mr Rapson embarked on building an Early Years nature area, which is designed to develop curiosity about the world around them. It has a giant sandpit, mud pit, mud kitchen, water play area, a bug hotel, a bee friendly garden and a vegetable garden. In order for the children to enjoy this area in all weathers we are asking parents to provide their child with a pair of wellies and waterproof trousers, that will be kept in school. This area, was a huge success last academic year with children and staff and is a huge driver of our curriculum. Like any uniform, please ensure everything is named.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us,

Kind regards,

Mrs O'Leary, Mrs May and Mrs Kelly



Reception

Term - Autumn

This sheet will give you an overview of the learning we are covering this half term.

Mathematics

Learning is split into two areas: Number and Numerical Pattern. This term your child will be exploring 0-5, and what the numbers mean, how each number can be represented both physically and pictorially. We will explore different ways of making these numbers and explore one more and one less. This term we will also be learning 2D shapes: circle, semi-circle, triangle, square, rectangle and pentagon. As well, as exploring meas-

Literacy

Read, Write, Inc. will be the focus of our Literacy curriculum; developing phonetic ability and reading. Your child will begin learning set 1 sounds, which is every sound of the alphabet. The focus will be to read set 1 sounds speedily and begin to read words with these sounds in, such as, 'cat'. They will learn how to recognise, read and write their name with a capital letter at the beginning.

Physical Development

This area of learning is about developing fine and gross motor skills. We will be focusing on:

- Dressing and Un-dressing.
- Cutting skills
- Learning the pre-writing shapes.
- Pencil control with an effective pencil grip.

Understanding the world

- What can we hear, see and feel outside in Autumn.
- Leaves fall off the trees in Autumn.
- That we are all unique and we celebrate our differences.
- Know which vegetables grow above/under the ground.

Our topics:

Ourselves



Superheroes



Autumn

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

At Whiteknights we have 6 Golden rules. Each week we will be focusing on a different 'Golden Rule' and focus on how to make and maintain friendships.

1. We are gentle
2. We listen
3. We are honest
4. We look after property
5. We are kind and helpful
6. We work hard

Expressive Arts and Design

This area incorporates music, drama, art and design and technology.

- Paint a self-portrait.
- Create a superhero mask
- Cut and peel vegetable to make vegetable soup.
- Design a superhero puppet.

Home learning

Please read to your child everyday and record what you have read in their reading diary. Once, your child has begun learning sounds, use the RWI videos (sent in the weekly newsletter) to practise with your child.

Alongside, support your child with counting to 5

Communication and Language

- Answering the register- 'good morning or good afternoon'.
- Asking for help from adults.
- Answering questions in full sentences
- Taking turns in group discussions
- Using taught vocabulary in sentences.
- Role-playing and re-telling familiar

The school day is balanced equally between times of formal and informal learning. When an adult leads an activity – this is known as Adult Directed time. At times when the children can choose learning experiences for themselves – this is known as Child Initiated time.

Parent reminders:

Key reading books:

