



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Reception!

We are very excited to welcome you to Elmbridge. The children have completed their first week and are settling in beautifully. There is a lot for the children to learn during these early weeks and you may find they are very tired. As we are learning all of the new routines, expectations and rules of school, it is very important for the children to attend all sessions.

Our topic this term is 'My Wonderful World and Beyond' and once the children are in full time, we will send home a topic overview and some home learning activities.

Drop off and Collection.

If you are dropping off at **8:45** or collecting at **3:00** then all entrances to the school are open. The cloakroom doors are opened at 8:45 and shut at 8:50.

If you are dropping off or collecting at any other time (11:15, 12:30, 1:00) please only use the Windfall Way walkway to enter and exit, following the path straight to the Reception courtyard.

If you need any clarification please talk to your child's teacher.

Book bags and Water Bottles.

Please ensure your child brings their red book bag, even if it is empty, and a named water bottle (filled with **water only**) to school each day, along with a waterproof coat. We do ask that the water bottles are **not** placed inside book bags to avoid books, letters and their drawings getting damaged. We also request that children do not bring any items from home into school with them including the wearing of any jewellery. All toys and stationary items will be provided by school.

P.E.

Please can all PE kits be named and brought into school for the term so that your child has everything they need for taking part in PE. A reminder that the only kit we need at the moment is a red top and black shorts.

Our PE day is a Wednesday. For the children's safety long hair needs to be tied back and earrings need to be removed on this day, apart from in the first six weeks of having pierced ears. Due to the active nature of our curriculum, we do advise that long hair is always tied back, no jewellery is worn and earrings are removed at all times.

Outdoor Learning

Please can all wellies be brought into school and these will remain in school for the duration of the year. When it is your child's turn for their timetabled Forest School session, we will put a reminder on Tapestry and on the whiteboard in the Reception courtyard. The children will come to school wearing weather appropriate clothes e.g. a long sleeved t-shirt, hoodie or jumper, old jogging bottoms, leggings, a waterproof coat. We do ask that for their safety, the children's arms and legs are covered. They will change into their wellies before going outside so can come to school wearing their school shoes.

Tapestry

It is lovely to see so many of you already accessing and interacting with your Tapestry account. If you have not received an email with a link to access your account please check your junk folder or speak to your child's teacher. Tapestry is a fantastic resource for sharing the learning and experiences that we are having at school. We encourage you to comment on these observations and also upload your own observations from home to share with us in school.

Phonics Information Session

We will be holding a phonics information session on **Thursday 26th September at 4 o'clock** in the Infant Hall. This will provide valuable information about the phonics scheme that we use, how the children learn in school and how you can support your child at home. This is the beginning of your child's journey of learning to read so we urge you to attend the session.

If you have any queries, please speak to your child's teacher or teaching assistant. We will be on the door every day to help you and answer any questions.

Kind Regards

Mrs Hawkins, Miss King and Miss Kelly