



Early Years Newsletter

Welcome to our first newsletter of the school year! Subsequent newsletters will go out just before the end of each half term, to inform you of what is coming up.

Let me start by thanking you all for the warm welcome we received; Mrs Page, Miss Howells and myself thoroughly enjoyed meeting you all for your home visit and we hope you found them as helpful and enjoyable as we did! We have been pleased by how quickly everyone has settled and how new friendships have blossomed. Now all our children are full time the real fun can begin as they start their learning journey.

Our Topic

Supertato!

Our topic this half term is 'Supertato'. Our learning will reflect all things that are 'supertastic'. We will be writing speech bubbles, making story maps and designing our own super vegetables. In maths the evil pea will be challenging us to recognise numerals, estimate groups of objects and adding and subtract objects. Finally we will be getting creative making our own super vegetables using various techniques with paint and print. We will also be ending the topic with a superhero dress up day...stay tuned!



Timetable

Below is a timetable of some of the lessons that will go on weekly. Hopefully it will help those conversations about their school day!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Monitors	Gymnastic	Library Music French	Games	Stay and Play
Whole School Mass	RE	Class Assembly	RE Hymn Practice	Celebration assembly

Each day your child will be doing phonics, literacy, numeracy and art activities which will take place both inside and outside. We will also visit the playtrail most days!

New Morning Routine

On Monday 12th November, we will be asking you to let your child walk into school from the main gate with the rest of the school. We have spoken to their Year Six Buddies and they are very keen to help! Their Buddies will be on hand every morning to walk them through to their playground where a teacher will greet them. Early Years staff will also be on the gate for the first few weeks until they are used to this new routine.





Helping at Home

It would be really helpful if you can encourage your child to dress and undress on their own in the morning.

This includes doing their own socks and shoes. Our PE days are Tuesday and Thursday; so if they can wear clothing they find easy to change in and out of on these days, like socks instead of tights, it would be much appreciated.

LABELLING

Can we ask that you make sure that all of your children's clothes are named. This included their PE kit, t-shirt, trousers, skirts, dresses, coats, cardigans, jumpers and shoes. Thank you!

Family Learning

We will be holding a range of family learning events throughout the year, and will be sending some dates for your diary out soon.

These will include a Phonics and Reading Workshop for parents, a maths morning and a technology afternoon.



'Stay and Play' sessions will be on every Friday morning from 8.45-9.30am! Siblings and extended family are most welcome!



PHONICS AND READING WORKSHOP WILL BE THURSDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 1.30-3.30pm
There will also be an opportunity for you to try some of our phonics activities with your child and look at their learning journey so far.

Reading books!

Thank you all for supporting reading at home. As you will be aware your child has a regular reading day when they will be heard at school, in addition to this day they will also be heard by volunteers and EY staff throughout the week so please make sure they have their reading books every day. When we hear your child read we will always write in their diary but please don't feel you have to do the same. Some parents like to write the date they hear their child read, others write in there just when they have a question or if their child has read particularly well, others like to write in there every time they hear their child read, please do what you feel comfortable with. We recommend you hear your child 3-4 times a week, as well as reading to them (a range of books) as often as possible.

The reading workshop on Thursday 22nd November will offer more advice on how you can support your child at home.



Please do fill in an 'I'm Proud of my child because...' and send into class or email jverhiest@st-swithuns.portsmouth.sch.uk (photos welcome) so we can celebrate these moments at school.

I'm proud of my child because...

Child's name: _____
From _____ Date _____

I'm proud of my child because...

Child's name: _____
From _____ Date _____

I'm proud of my child because...

Child's name: _____
From _____ Date _____

I'm proud of my child because...

Child's name: _____
From _____ Date _____

