

Starting Full Time at Misterton Primary School



Foundation Stage 2



In September your child will be starting full time education, we are aware that this can be a stressful time, and you may have many queries. This book will hopefully provide you with answers to many of them however, if you do have any more questions please see a member of the unit staff.

Staff

The staffing in the unit will consist primarily of Miss Brunt, Mrs Wallace and Miss Soulsby. Mrs Wallace is our FS1 teacher who will be supported by and Ms Humphrey. Miss Brunt is the FS2 teacher with Mrs Weldon and Miss Soulsby providing support to FS2 in the afternoons. Mrs Warner also supports across FSU. However, in September much of the morning will be structured play with children accessing activities of their choosing just like FS1 and as such will spend time with all of the staff at points. As the year progresses, the timetable will change to allow the FS2 children to receive more direct teaching preparing them ultimately for their move through school.



Swimming

After the holidays your child will have weekly swimming lessons with their class. It would really help them if you could take them swimming over the summer to gain water confidence and practise getting dressed all by themselves.



School swimming will start on Friday 13th September and they will need swimming kit every Friday. For girls the required kit is a one piece suit (no bikinis) and for boys swimming trunks (no baggy shorts). Children who wear earrings must be able to remove them themselves as staff are not permitted to do this. If this is not possible then please remove them in the morning before school.



If you wish your child to wear goggles then a permission letter will be needed which is available from the school office.

If you would like to volunteer help with swimming please let a member of staff know.

Lunch Times

Your child will have the choice of school dinners or bringing packed lunch. Lunch money should be brought to school in a named envelope, the dinner menus are available online for you to look at with your child. Packed lunches should be brought in a named lunch box and placed in the lunch trolley in the cloakroom.



In a morning the dinner register will be on the interactive whiteboard and they should move their name to the correct side of the board to show which they are having. Initially they will need some support to do this be they quickly pick up the skill.

Big Friends

For the first week or two in September your child will have a Big Friend, a named child in year 6, to support them in the dining hall, helping them choose lunch, carry trays , put

plates away or for packed lunches what to do with their rubbish. Generally to make sure they feel good at lunch time and know what needs to happen next.



PE

The children will be lucky to receive coaching from the 780 coaching staff who work with children throughout the school. They will need PE kit available on a Thursday afternoon. We recommend you bring in the kit at the beginning of the half term and leave it until the holidays. Kit should consist of black shorts and a white t-shirt and, in fine weather conditions, trainers to enable them to work outside.



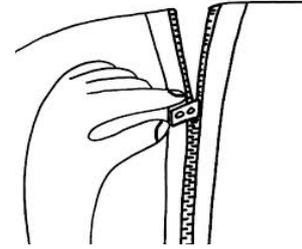
Part of the curriculum in FS2 focuses heavily on independence skills and PE is one of the areas which enables us to develop this. The children will need to be able to undress themselves and change into their kit initially with very little help, swiftly leading to no help at all. This is something you could begin to develop over the summer, encouraging them to get ready for bed (and put clothes tidy) all by themselves.

Please ensure all kit has names in as it is very easy to get t-shirts/shorts mixed up when lots of children get changed at the same time.

Homework

In FS2 homework will consist primarily of regular reading. The child will have an orange reading record which you should write in a short comment in whenever you read at home. From September there will be a display to encourage them to read at home. Each week they read 3 or more times at home they will move a step up the chart when they reach the top they will get a small reward.

In addition to this homework will be set relating to the topics we cover or particular areas of learning which are identified through the year. For example summer home work will be to work on independence skills, such as getting dressed independently, putting on own socks or coat for example (2 of the trickiest areas) and zipping up their own coat.



Reading

FS2 is an exciting time in a child's reading life. It is a time when children begin to learn the basics of reading and are important to get off to a good start. In the unit the children will continue to have access to a wide range of texts, they will also read with a teacher in a group once a week, this is called guided reading and this book will come home for you to share at home.

The children will also begin to learn the sounds that make up words – phonics – in daily sessions. We use a programme called jolly phonics to support this learning as it uses actions, sounds and pictures to reinforce the learning, you will receive regular updates on which sounds your child is learning.

The main thing is regular short periods of reading with an adult which is where you as parents come in. There will be a reading meeting in the autumn term to discuss how we teach reading and how you can best support your child.



Book Bags



Book bags should be brought into school on a daily basis. They are available to buy from Tesco's Uniform Service. A learning pack will be put together which will include a copy of the handwriting format, sound mats, a number line and other useful tools for supporting your child's learning.