

Newsletter for Parents Autumn Term 2017

Little Owls - Reception Class



Class Teacher-

Mrs A Parkin

Advanced Teaching Assistant-

Mrs L Bingham

We would like to welcome your child to Hambleton C of E Primary School and Little Owls Class. We look forward to working together to build a partnership that will enable your child to do their very best during their first year at Hambleton School. Indeed this is a very important year for your child. We have found that children work to the best of their ability when they are actively involved and interested in what they do at school. Your involvement might range from talking to them about what they have been doing to reading with them and helping them with homework activities. If you have any questions about what you can do to help your child then please do not hesitate to ask.

Curriculum: EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage)

The EYFS is split up into seven areas of learning:

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding of the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



Each area of learning is just as important as the other. They are covered through focused teaching sessions, child initiated play, discrete teaching and through the enhanced provision areas. Our theme for this term is '**Happy Times**', which we will learn through the changing seasons, harvest and Christmas. We will also be listening to stories from our own holidays and those adventures of Barnaby Bear. We shall start with asking your

child to bring in a photo, to go on display, of themselves having a 'happy time' somewhere and hope they can talk about it. We shall encourage your child to bring in items/pictures from home to be displayed on our '**Happy Times**' wall in the classroom. As we begin our Jolly Phonics teaching and start identifying initial letter sounds we shall encourage your child to bring in small items/pictures from home to be displayed on our initial letter sound table top. Please note our letter sounds for the week will be displayed on the classroom window.

(see parent phonic meeting details scheduled later this week overleaf)
'**Barnaby Bear**' is a class bear who likes to see the world around us and have a 'happy time' travelling about with our new Little Owls! Please be aware that Barnaby Bear may accompany your child home over night or even one weekend with his own suitcase and diary and would love a photo with your child to go on our class display doing something special and 'happy' together!

Safeguarding your child and passwords

Thank you for completing and sending in your child's password. It is important we have these as we will use the system if we do not know the person collecting your child from school.

Equipment

The school does provide all the younger children with the equipment that they need at school therefore it is best that the younger children leave personal equipment like pencil cases at home.

P.E/Games

We may choose to do physical exercise as and when we feel it appropriate which means your child might do it more than once a week.

Class 1 children will need to have their **P.E. kits** in school everyday **from January** when we feel the children are ready for the routine of changing clothes to participate in physical exercise.

Snacks

The children receive one piece of free fruit or vegetable snack everyday. The choices may include apple, pear, clementine, mango, pineapple, tomato, cucumber, banana, raisins and carrot. We will encourage the children to eat the snack provided each day. However, this is often not enough to sustain them through a very busy three and a half hour morning session until lunch time. ***We strongly recommend therefore you provide your child with extra fresh or dried fruit or vegetable snacks in a box***

which fits their school drawer. We encourage the children to eat the snack as and when they need it so we have happy, engaged learners throughout our busy, active morning session.

Universal Free School Meals

Your child will automatically receive a Universal Free School Meal. There is **no need to inform anyone official** that you would like your child to have a Universal Free School Meal. It is your child's responsibility to know whether they would like a hot school dinner or whether they have brought a packed lunch for that day's lunch.

'Cool Milk'

Milk has started for those children whose parents have registered with the Cool Milk scheme. Your child is entitled to free school milk if under five and can purchase milk, for a small amount, if over five. This must be done through the Cool Milk scheme. If you are unsure please ask at the school office.

Water

All children have access to water throughout the day. Clean cups are provided each time so there is no need to provide own water bottles, thank you.

Your Child's Belongings

It is so important to label as much of your child's belongings as is possible from shoes to hats and gloves. This helps to minimise the stress caused to everyone when things are misplaced or taken, unknowingly, by the wrong child. **If you would like your belongings back you must label them!** Thank you for your support in this matter.

Your first homework

I am holding a meeting at the start of school at 8.45am-9.30am in the school hall this **Thursday 14th September** to discuss how you can support your child's learning at home. I will explain in detail the **reading and phonics homework** and other home/school expectations. We hope you can attend this short meeting. If you cannot make this time please see me before Thursday.

If your child has any particular interests emerging e.g. dinosaurs, the world around us, please advise us as we enhance our learning areas with appropriate resources to support your child's learning and needs.

Reading

To be addressed at the meeting on Thursday 14th September 8.45am

Topics this term

'Happy Times'

Visit

This half term we shall be visiting Hambleton Hough for a 'Happy Times' nature walk and picnic to link in with our topic. We will be listening to sounds and creating music from natural resources. Parent helpers needed! A letter detailing visit information will be sent nearer the time.

We look forward to a positive partnership between home and school so that together we can strive to make this a happy and successful year for your child.

If you have any questions about the above information then please do not hesitate to ask.

Mrs Parkin

