



Acorn Class Newsletter



Welcome to Newington C of E Primary School

Acorn Class Teacher - Mrs Barton

Acorn Support Staff - Miss Dewberry, Miss French & Miss Driver

Additional Adults- Miss Bourne



Welcome! My name is Mrs Barton and I am the class teacher in Acorn class. I am very much looking forward to sharing your child's first year at school with you. Miss French and Miss Dewberry have worked in Reception over the last few years and Miss Driver has recently joined us from a local nursery. Miss Bourne will be leading the class on a Friday as this is my non-working day. It has been a pleasure getting to know your children in their first week and we are all extremely proud of how well they have already settled into school. We are looking forward to working with you and your child during their time in Reception. Please do come and see us if you have any questions or queries. Alternatively you can message on Class Dojo where we will respond as soon as we can. DOJO is checked regularly between the working hours of 8.30 and 4.30. Please do not put urgent or absence messages on DOJO but contact the school office directly.



The majority of parents are now connected to Class Dojo but if you have not yet, please look out for an invite link by email. I will update Dojo with the learning that is taking place in class through class stories and the individual portfolios will be updated to share 'wow' moments or significant achievements. Our role in Early Years is to be 'in the moment' with the children, interacting and scaffolding their learning through play so these will be updated regularly but not daily. We value your input on your child's learning journey so do please continue to upload 'Wow' or significant moments from home too.

Clothing - Please make sure all items of your child's clothing has their name on it. This means we can return lost items to the correct owner quickly.



Curriculum information



Our topic in Term 1 is 'Marvellous Me'



In term 1 our topic will be 'Marvellous Me' We have chosen this topic to give us and the children an opportunity to transition in to school and really get to know each other. We will be busy getting to know all our new friends and establishing how we can all work together to create an amazing acorn class.

We will be talking about our families, pets and our likes and dislikes. We will be exploring the world around us using our different senses and learning about the different parts of our bodies with games and songs. The children will begin to think about what they can do to keep themselves healthy and safe, including a focus on oral health and teeth cleaning!

In maths this term, we will be learning to match and sort a range of objects. Once the children can sort collections into sets, they then will practise comparing and ordering sets using the language of 'more' and 'fewer' We will also learn how to make repeated patterns.

In literacy, the children will begin daily Phonics and Reading sessions from Week 3. They will also listen and join in with familiar and new stories as part of our theme. We will encourage the children to develop their mark making skills by developing their fine motor skills through dough disco and a program called write dance. We practising name writing lots this term too.

P.E

Acorn class will not yet be doing an 'official' PE session in the hall as we settle into our classroom and new surroundings. We are very fortunate to have our 'outdoor' classroom with many opportunities for physical play every day. We will update you on PE days in term 2.

Phonics and Early Reading

In the next few weeks we will begin our daily structured phonics sessions. The Phonics scheme we follow is called Little Wandle and I will send out further information about this once we are started. Alongside our phonics we will also have reading sessions. Children will be given a phonetically decodable reading book once they are able to blend sounds to read simple words. Until then, the children will be given a wordless book and again further information will follow.

How can you help at home?

- Practise putting on jumpers and coats independently ready for the cold weather.
- Practise using a knife and fork.
- Play turn taking games
- Share and discuss stories every night.
- Sing nursery rhymes and other short songs
- Emphasise initial sounds of words i.e. c for cat
- Practise recognising and writing your name.
- Count daily and look out for numbers in your home.

Baseline Assessment

It is a statutory requirement that schools complete a baseline assessment on all children in the first 6 weeks of them starting school. This will be completed by myself and is just a way of getting to know your child and their needs. Further information to follow.



Acorn Class Home Learning Menu

Term 1— Marvellous Me



Here are some ideas of the learning you may like to do at home this term to follow what we are doing in school. You may complete as many of these as you like but there is no expectation. However, if you do complete any of the activities, please share with us on class DOJO so that we can celebrate in class.

Talk about family with your child and learn the names of different family members i.e. Nan, Grandad, Aunt



Please can you send in one framed 6 X 4 family photo to share and display in class as part of our theme 'Marvellous Me' We would like to keep these displayed in our classroom for the whole year. These can also be posted on Dojo.

Draw a self-portrait and together name all the different parts of the face/body i.e. mouth, nose, eye brows.



Build your own home out of Lego, building blocks or cardboard boxes. How tall can you make it? What number is your home?



Ask your child to help you sort the socks, washing, fruit—Can they sort by Colour, shape or size?



Practise recognising and writing your own name. This can be with crayons, paint, chalk and not just a pencil.



Go on an Autumn walk and talk about the change in seasons. A great opportunity to introduce new vocabulary which is so important in the early years.

