

Dear Parents and Carers,

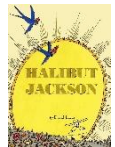
A very warm welcome to all new families, and welcome back to familiar faces; we are looking forward to a brand new school year together! We hope you all had a lovely summer break, and are ready and raring to go.

During the first few weeks in school, we will have lots of stories, rhymes and songs and time to talk and listen to one another. We will also be listening out for the things that your children are interested in and engaged with. If you are new to the setting, you will hopefully have all filled in the forms that we gave you at the end of last term. We do get some idea of what the children enjoy from these but if there is anything that you have not mentioned, or any new interests have cropped up (no matter how long your child has been with us) please do let us know!



We are kick starting the school year with a theme of 'People Who Help Us'. This topic will give us the chance to think about people in our lives that help us in different ways, from parents and teachers to fire fighters and dentists! Our focus text for this topic will be 'Ruby's Worry' by Tom Percival, though we will enjoy many other stories through learning and play, continually enhancing and adapting our environment based on the children's interests. For instance, we know that there are some keen

investigators amongst us and have therefore ensured that our new outdoor sensory garden is ready for exploration! We also know that lots of the children have an interest in baby play, and have therefore set up a Baby Clinic role play area. Following the half term we will be focusing on the theme of 'Colour My World!' with our key text being 'Halibut Jackson' by David Lucas.



During this Autumn term, the children will enjoy lots of different learning environments, including the forest and dance sessions in the school hall. Dance will take place every Monday afternoon. Forest will take place on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings. We know that the weather is set to be very warm, particularly in the first few weeks of term, but **it is a Forest School requirement that arms and legs are covered** for these sessions.

On Tuesdays, please pack long sleeves and long trousers or leggings in your child's bag so that they can change into appropriate clothing for their afternoon session. On Fridays, please send your children in with their forest clothing on, as Friday sessions take place first thing. You can pack cooler spares in their bags to change later. Your cooperation with this is hugely helpful.



Children need a pair of wellies and a bag of spare clothes in school at all times. We cannot stress enough how important it is for everything to be named. **Please ensure all items of clothing (including school shoes and wellies, coats and caps) are named clearly.**

We are a nut-free school so please remember this if you are giving your child a packed lunch. The children do not need water bottles in school.



We do ask for a £5 voluntary contribution each term just to help us with the small incidental things like ingredients for playdough/cooking, sensory items, and we really do appreciate your help with this.



Please remember to start looking at/using Tapestry now. Many thanks to those of you who have already posted some of your child's learning on there; it is so important that your voices are heard as well as ours! Do let us know if you are having any difficulties with the programme.

Do remember to check the school website and memos on Tapestry regularly so that you see all the learning that is going on and receive important information and updates. Here, you will also find copies of any letters we send home and an outline of our curriculum.

We are really looking forward to working closely with you and your children during the coming year!

The Early Years Team