



'Every Child Counts, Every Moment Matters'

Headteacher - Mrs Lisa Montandon

Welcome to Millfields

We hope the following information will help to prepare you for September.

In September your child will be in one of our two Reception classes called 'Acorns'. These classes work together across our Reception base. Each child has an allocated teacher who delivers their learning input. Activities are then spaced across the two classrooms and the outside learning area. Each week every child takes part in a Forest School session led by our Forest School team. You will be notified of your child's class teacher in due course.

Daily Routine (after induction days)

Each morning a member of the Senior Leadership Team will be on the door of the front playground to greet you and your child between **8.40am and 8.50am**, which is the official start to the school day. The gates will be locked after this time and your child will have to enter school via the school office. You will need to then sign your child in via our electronic signing in system located in the school office. Any child arriving to school after 8:50am will be registered as late.

Your child will enter school as independently as possible. Teachers and teaching assistants will be available to support your child organising their belongings and settling them into class before the register is taken. Each day there will be a whole school assembly which will include singing. We also have weekly themed assemblies, pupil voice and Celebration assemblies.

In the morning, your child will be taught a daily Maths lesson and Phonics lesson to support the development of basic skills in these areas of learning. As the year progresses, these sessions will increase in time to prepare the children for Key Stage One. In the afternoon, children will have another taught session which will vary on a daily basis. Examples of these sessions could be: music, art, PE, science and topic work. In between the discrete taught sessions, children will have 'play and explore' time, where they have access to a range of resources in both classrooms and the outdoor area. During this time, teaching staff will complete focus activities in small groups, daily reading and ongoing assessments, as well as observing the children in their play.

Lunch time is **11.45am-12.45pm**, when children will eat their lunch (Universal School Meals or packed lunch) in the hall before going on the front playground to play.

The end of Acorns children's school day is 3.05pm. This is 10 minutes before the rest of the school to support the children leaving us in a safe and calm manner. Please ensure you are on the playground on time to collect your child; if you are running late, please call the school office. We will only allow children to be collected by a known adult as authorised by yourself (as per the emergency contact details which you will need to complete on the 'Data Collection Sheet'). Please ensure we are aware of who is collecting at the end of the school day.

Forest School

Each week all classes are taught a session at our onsite Forest School. This is a fantastic curriculum enhancement, which we are very proud of. Our Forest School staff are enthusiastic and passionate about outdoor learning.

Forest School provides the children with practical, hands-on experiences such as going in mini beast hunts, learning about fire safety, observing seasonal changes and wildlife, building large scale constructions with real building equipment, plus many more opportunities.

Things to do at home

To help prepare your child for school life please encourage the following:

- To dress themselves independently - shoes on right feet, take jumper on and off.
- To use a knife and fork when eating a hot dinner
- To go to the toilet independently - wipe themselves, flush the chain, wash hands
- To begin to recognise and attempt to write their own name

Communication

We pride ourselves on our regular communications with our parents. The main way in which we send out important messages and letters, including our Newsletter, is through our Parent App. It is important that you sign up to this before your child starts school. More details about this will follow later.

In Pre-School and Reception, the staff use an app called 'Tapestry' to send you pictures and information about what your child has been learning. You can also share with the teacher the things your child has been doing at home through this app. You will receive details of how to sign up for this over the coming weeks.

We very much look forward to seeing you soon.