

New Parents Meeting



***Barn Owls
Reception Class
Newton Poppleford Primary***

June 2021

The purpose of this powerpoint is :

- To help you to understand the curriculum we will be teaching in the reception class
- To understand the different ways in which we teach and your child will learn
- To identify the key ways in which you can help your child at home

Parent partnership is key, a two way flow of information is essential.

Every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables them to fulfil their potential. Children develop quickly in the early years and a child's experiences between birth and age five have a major impact on their future life chances. A secure, safe and happy childhood is important in its own right. Good parenting and high quality early learning together provide the foundation children need to make the most of their abilities and talents as they grow up.

What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?

- The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the stage of education for children from birth to the end of the Reception year
- It is based on the recognition that children learn best through play and active learning
- It is the same curriculum as in pre-reception settings
- It is changing from September 2021



There are seven areas of learning and development:

Prime Areas

- Communication and Language
- Personal Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development

Specific Areas

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

There are 17 Early Learning Goals against which each child is assessed at the end of the reception year

All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected. The prime areas are important for building the foundations and it is through the specific areas that the primes are strengthened.

There are also three characteristics of effective teaching and learning

- Playing and exploring
- Active learning
- Creating and thinking critically

These tell us about **how** each child learns not **what** they are learning.

We look for things such as what engages or motivates a child, problem solving, resilience, changing strategy etc.



Why play is so important

Play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, relate to others, set their own goals and solve problems. Children learn by leading their own play, and by taking part in play which is guided by adults.

In the Spring Term we will introduce 'play projects' to the class where twice a week every child will do a play project on anything they want. We will explain more nearer the time but PP are fantastic!



Going forward

- The new curriculum gives us the opportunity to spend more time interacting and playing with the children
- This means that we will not be completing as many written observations and putting them on Tapestry
- This does mean however that we will know your children very well!

If you as a parent have been used to an online system in your child's pre-reception setting you will probably have had new observations etc. uploaded very regularly. In order to be with the children to play, learn, interact, question etc. we won't be able to replicate this however examples of really significant learning will be shared in this way.

If you haven't already done so please complete the Tapestry online form giving us permission to take photos and videos of your child and that you are happy for photos/videos to be shared with other parents too. We do take lots of group/whole class photos/videos and send them out to everyone which gives a lovely flavour of life in Barn Owls!

If you'd like us to send them to both parents, please let us have both email addresses. Thank you.

Developing children's language and vocabulary

There is a new focus on **early language and extending** vocabulary.

We will do this by:

- Having quality learning conversations and interactions with the children

When you do something out of school, please share photos/videos on Tapestry with us so that we can engage in conversation with your child.

- Reading a range of stories, poems, rhymes and non-fiction texts
- Teaching new words and vocabulary

What can you do to help your child?

- Chat, play and read to and with them
- Encourage them to be independent
use a knife and fork, dress themselves, do up their coat, put their shoes on etc
- Play board games with them
- Help them to recognise their name and know what letter it starts with. If they are starting to show an interest in writing their name, then encourage a capital letter to start and lower case for the other letters
- Encourage good oral health

The help that you give your children at home has a very significant impact on their learning.

In the Autumn term when your child starts to bring home reading books please make time to hear them read. Ten minutes every day really does make a huge difference. Please also help them to learn their 'net words' and magnetic spelling game too. More information on these to follow in October.

And finally...

Please see the yellow information leaflet in your starter pack for our class information and watch the videos on Barn Owls class page on our website where I've videoed the classroom and talked you through the leaflet.

We look forward to seeing your child for another taster visit on **Tuesday 6th July** at 1.15 pm and then on **Wednesday 8th September** for the start of their school journey with us.

Any further questions please don't hesitate to email admin@newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk and we will get back to you asap. No question is too small to ask.

Thank you!

**Mary Raffell
Reception Teacher**

