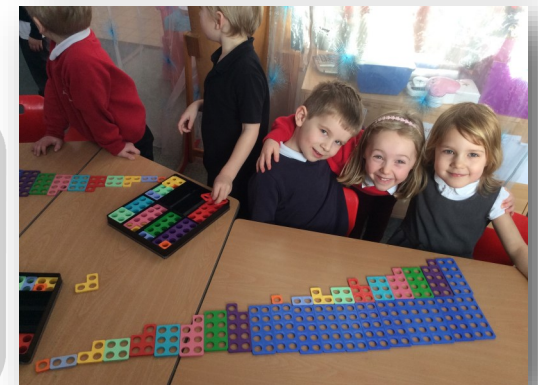


Welcome to Armathwaite School



.....where learning is just as it should be; exciting, challenging, fun and rewarding!



WELCOME !

Welcome to Armathwaite School. We look forward to you becoming part of our fantastic, friendly team. This booklet is intended to help you to know more about what happens at our school. If there is anything you are unsure about please ask.

School Times

Doors open to everyone at 8.30am. The bell rings at 8.55am. Breakfast club runs from 8 to 8.30am. This will continue to be the case during school return in September during the Coronavirus pandemic.

School opens at 8am for children who would like to use our breakfast club, which runs until 8.30am at a cost of £2 per session. The school door opens to everyone at 8.30am for morning jobs and we welcome you to come in with your child each morning.

School finishes at 3,30pm. This year we will have slightly different picking up and dropping off arrangements due to the COVID-19 pandemic. More information to follow.

We start the day by saying hello to the person marking in the register. Then children use a computer to plan their child initiated independent learning and do their handwriting. This is a routine we follow every day. The bell rings around 9am and we all go down to the hall for wake up shake up and assembly. There will be no wake up shake up or assembly at the beginning of September due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

School ends at 3.30pm. After school we offer a range of clubs, including:

healthy living club, games club, cycling club, craft club, Smart Moves, transition club, netball and football.

These clubs run from 3.30 to 4.30pm and cost £1.50. Children can stay for an additional 30minutes until 5pm at a further cost of £2. Clubs are booked in half termly blocks. Please see Mrs Doves to book your child into a club for half a term. NB netball club runs at lunchtime and is free. Clubs may have to be restricted or arranged differently in response to the Coronavirus pandemic so we can keep everyone as safe as possible.



Healthy Living Club





Playtime

As a school we have made a commitment to provide free milk and fruit each day at morning break for all children. School also provides each child with their own water bottle which they have access to throughout the day. We encourage children to have a drink at regular intervals. We use the school field all year round. There is plenty of space to run, play and explore! Please let us know of any allergies.



Dinner time

Usually lunch is served in our lovely school hall. Reception children sit in buddy groups with older children which gives a real family social feel. Eating lunch with other children at school encourages your child to try new types of food .

School meals are freshly prepared on site by our school cook, Anne. These include delicious salads and a range of lovely homemade meals. The menus are planned on a 3 weekly cycle by our catering company, Orian. Children are supervised at lunchtime by Kath Bell in the dinner hall. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic we will not be sitting in buddy groups when we first return to school and will have to have a staggered lunchtime. However, we will return to this as soon as it is considered safe to do so.

All children in Year Reception, 1 and 2 are eligible for universal free school meals. This is a government funded initiative. We encourage you to take advantage of this great opportunity for your child. Dinners are ordered through the online Lunch Shop. We will explain more about how this work when your child starts in September.

If you are eligible for free school meals or think you may be please speak to Mrs Dowes or Mrs Hepworth, who will provide help and advice. All conversations will be completely confidential. Registering eligibility for free school meals brings many benefits for you and school. Parents of children eligible for free school meals can also receive support for buying uniform and paying for trips. School benefits though pupil premium funding which we use to provide individual support and interventions. We need to know that your child is eligible in order to be able to access the funding to support them, so please let us know if they are, or ask us for help if you think they may be. We can support you in finding out.

Please inform school of any foods that are not suitable for your child. Alternatively, children can bring a healthy, balanced packed lunch to school. We have guidelines for packed lunch in school.



Our Staff Team

Mrs Helen Hepworth is our head teacher and Early Years leader. She teaches Nursery, Reception and Year 1 English and Maths. She is a key worker for children in Nursery and Year Reception. She teaches Design and Technology and leads child initiated independent learning throughout school. She shares responsibility for teaching PE and P4C. She is also English subject leader and designated safeguarding lead in school.

Mrs Barbara Anderson has responsibility for Year 2 English and Maths, teaches History and Art throughout school and is our SENDCO (special educational needs and disability coordinator). She is subject leader for Maths and has completed maths recovery training. Mrs Anderson shares responsibility for teaching SRE and PSHE.

Miss Eleanor Price has responsibility for Year 3 and 4 English and Maths and teaches Geography, RE and French across school. She shares responsibility for teaching PE across school and SRE and PSHE.

Mrs Helen Gill has responsibility for Year 5 and 6 English and Maths. She teaches Science and Computing throughout school. She is also our Sex and Relationships and PSHE and Philosophy for Children (P4C) leader, sharing responsibility for teaching P4C.

Mrs Charlotte McCallum supports Mrs Anderson teaching Year 2.

Mr Daniel Verry ~ teaches music across school. He also provides instrument lessons in guitar, keyboard and ukelele .

Mrs Libby Dowes is our School Administrator ~ she sorts out all the forms and money and generally keeps us all organised!

Mrs Lesley Wylie is our Higher Level Teaching Assistant and School Learning Skills Coordinator. She supports and provides learning in the early years and is a key worker for Nursery and Reception children in school. Mrs Wylie also specialises in reading intervention and literacy support and is trained to provide maths intervention in school. Mrs Wylie specialises in the 'how' or skills for learning. She also supports the teaching of Design and Technology throughout school and provides drawing and talking and nurture sessions.

Miss Rachel Armstrong is our Early Years Educator teaching assistant. She works in Year Nursery, Reception and 1.

Miss Kelly Holmes is our teaching assistant, working in Year Nursery, Reception and 1. She also supports Year 2 and 3 maths and provides intervention for identified children. Miss Holmes is responsible for breakfast club.

Anne-Marie Pincombe provides same day maths intervention, maths recovery and maths stretch across years 3 to 6.

Anne Norman is our school cook. Kath Bell is our lunchtime supervisor.

Jess is our cleaner who keeps everything spick and span.

Our Governing Body

Grant Smith is our Chair of Governors, Grant Smith is Vice-Chair. Other governors are listed on the school website.



What Your Child Needs

We value the individuality of our children so we don't insist on school uniform. However, we do have school sweatshirts, polo shirts and fleecy and reversible waterproof jackets, available in lots of different colours, designed with our own school logo.

There is also a white PE T-shirt with the school logo. Uniform is ordered through school. There is an order form in your welcome pack and you can ask Mrs Dowes to order items of uniform whenever you need it. Long hair needs to be tied up for school please. The only requirement is that children wear comfortable clothes that are practical for school (and okay to get dirty!) We don't wear blue denim jeans or clothes with rips in them.

Children also need:

- **Indoor shoes/plimsolls/Croc style sandals/slippers**—anything that fits the whole foot (not flip flops). All our children change their shoes when they come in to school to help keep our carpets clean and pleasant to sit and work on.
- A pair of wellies and a waterproof coat for outdoor play and playtimes.

PE ~ this is a requirement . For PE all children need have and keep in school:-

- **black sports style shorts**
- **a plain white t-shirt** , which can be ordered with a school logo on the school order form, or bought without the logo in shops selling school uniform.
- **jogging pants or tracksuit bottoms to keep in school** for outdoor PE
- **a fleecy/warm top to keep in school** for outdoor PE
- **a pair of trainers to keep in school** for outdoor PE
- **and a PE bag to keep them in** (any bag is fine but we do have PE bags which can be ordered through school)

Important-*For safety reasons long hair needs to be tied up every day . Earrings and watches must also be removed for PE.*

Please **write/sew** your child's name on all clothing.

For safety reasons during the Coronavirus pandemic and following government guidelines our PE will be outside on the school field.



We want our school to be happy, friendly, inspiring and purposeful. We welcome parents and members of the community into our school. We are so sad not to be able to have parents in school at the moment due to the Coronavirus pandemic, but we will welcome you back in as soon as it is safe to do so. If at any time you want to talk to the teachers about your child please let us know. We are available for you and will still be able to say hello when you are dropping off\collecting your child at the beginning or end of the school day.

We believe it is very important to work in partnership with our parents and carers with knowledge and information flowing freely both ways. We know what an important two-way process this is and that by working together we can give your child the best opportunities to become a really successful learner.

Key workers for Year Reception children are Mrs Hepworth, Miss Armstrong and Mrs Wylie, who are available to speak to you and share information and advice.

All other members of staff will be happy to help too.



Books in School

School provides all children with a school book bag and a learning log. Your child will bring books home to read with you. They will also be given a Supersonic Phonic Friends sounds book and key rings to share with you and a maths book to do at home.

We will have a meeting to give you more information about phonics, reading and sharing books at the beginning of term.



What did you do at school today?

When your child starts school their learning is planned from the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. Mrs Hepworth will hold a meeting early in the Autumn term to tell you all about this and how we plan for child-initiated independent learning. We plan learning carefully to ensure it is purposeful, meaningful and **FUN!**

Parents in School

You have been helping your child to learn since he/she was born and we are always keen to hear information from you about your child's learning at home and how we can help her/him learn at school. We also welcome parent/carers and grandparents into school to help and support learning and are keen to resume this once the Coronavirus pandemic allows.

Having parents in school helps:-

The child

- ~ to feel secure, happy & valued
- ~ to share their learning
- ~ to have lots of adults to talk to

The parent ~ to understand how the school works

- ~ to gain a deeper understanding of what and how your child is learning and how enjoyable and rewarding learning can be!
- ~ to share your child's development
- ~ to get to know the staff in school

The teacher

- ~ to get to know you better
- ~ to give more time to each child
- ~ to provide a wider range of activities
- ~ to make use of your special skills





If you have a skill, an interest or expertise that you would like to share with us, or know of someone else in your family or in the community who has, please let us know.



The home visit and induction sessions are the first step towards introducing you and your child to the school. We are sorry not have been able to do this due to the Coronavirus pandemic but it has been lovely to be able to meet your child at our outdoor play taster sessions.

We know that every child is unique and want to let you know they will be valued for this at Armathwaite School.

Any questions? Just ask us if there is anything we have missed telling you about!

Thank you for taking the time to read our booklet. I hope it has been interesting and useful for you. Please let us know if you have any other questions you would like us to answer. We look forward to your family becoming a part of the community of life-long learners at Armathwaite School.

Mrs Hepworth

