

EARLY YEARS INFORMATION BOOKLET 2025-26

First, a very big thank you for a great start to the year. The children are settling extremely well and have begun to 'find their feet'. You have all been wonderful at the 'dropping off' routine and are obviously supporting them well at home. Thank you

Here is some information about routines etc. If there is something that is not mentioned, please feel free to ask the class teacher.

PLEASE BRING EVERY DAY

- A small rucksack or floppy bag to put water bottle, snack etc in. Children find it tricky to carry everything in their hands so a bag is really helpful. Water bottles cannot go in the reading folders as we have had lots of books spoilt due to water spillages.
- Book bag with all reading books/library books
- Packed lunch (if needed)
- Only fruit/vegetables for morning play time in a plastic/paper/wax bag/named pots or boxes. All snacks to be kept in bag on peg.
- Water bottle for the classroom. Water bottles must have **ONLY WATER**. The water bottle will be returned each evening. Please label all water bottles.

TOILETING

We are unable to assist your child, unless they have a medical condition, so please teach them how to wipe and then allow them to practise this important skill. Of course, if your child has an 'accident' we will assist them in changing out of wet/soiled clothes and into dry ones.

NOTES, RETURNED LETTERS, MESSAGES.

We have a basket outside each classroom for messages and returned letters. Please could you give your child's teacher a list of days and people who will drop off or pick up if they are different from yourselves and if this is on a regular basis. If it is a 'one-off' please send an email or telephone the office. We cannot send your child home with another person if we have not been informed, due to safeguarding.

MILK

If you would like your child to have milk, please see the Cool Milk leaflet in your Information Pack

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

There is a very calm atmosphere and lots of adults to help out if needed. The school dinners are free, so do encourage your child to try. The meals are set around the Family Service. This is where the children come into the hall, sit down and the food is served for them. This has proved to be a very successful service, in that the children enjoy being 'waited on', and also all of the children have to wait for each other to finish before moving onto pudding. This means that children do not rush their lunch to go outside and play and it is a sociable time, sitting chatting like at home.

EARLY YEARS GARDEN AND VERANDA

The children go out onto the Early Years Garden or Veranda every day. We think of these areas of an extension of the classroom. Going into the Early Years Garden is a very important part of the curriculum as it provides extended play opportunities and lots of active and 'first hand' learning.

We go out in ALL weathers! The children love to play in the rain and, because we keep them active in cold weather, they hardly notice it! If the weather is rainy please make sure your child has a WATERPROOF COAT, with a hood.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please could you ensure that all uniform is named as children do leave cardigans and jumpers everywhere. Thank you.

PE

PE: F2DW- Monday and Friday

F2PB and F2AO- Wednesday and Friday this half-term. Please could your child have the following in their PE bag;

- **Tracksuit bottoms or leggings**
- **T-shirt**
- **Sweatshirt/zip up jacket**
- **Trainers**
- **shorts**

Please label everything.

NB: NO EAR-RINGS ARE TO BE WORN ON PE DAYS PLEASE. WE ARE UNABLE TO TAKE EAR-RINGS OUT.

READING

The children will read once per week with the teacher usually in a small group. On this day they will also change their books.

EXPLANATION OF THE DIFFERENT BOOKS

- 'Choosing books' – these are books the children choose for themselves from the reading books in the classroom. These books help to build the children's interest and love of books; give experience of different types of books and helps practise reading skills; for example, looking at the pictures, talking about stories etc. These books are ideal for sharing with parents.
- One or two stickered books (lilac, pink, red or yellow). These are matched to the same level as the guided reading books they will read in school and also to the reading ability of your child.
- A Bug Club book linked to your child's phonics knowledge
- Games – you may sometimes be given a game instead of a book, these are used to practise wider reading skills like memory, visual or sound discrimination.

Many thanks and please contact us with any queries/questions at [**Earlyyears@thelanes.notts.sch.uk**](mailto:Earlyyears@thelanes.notts.sch.uk)

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The Early Years Team