



10th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers and children,

Welcome to Foundation! We have had a super start to the term and we are looking forward to a great year ahead. It has been so valuable having been able to meet with you and your child prior to starting school and we thank you for your time. We are so grateful for your support in encouraging your child to come in independently and it has been lovely to see how quickly the children have settled into their new classes. Over the next few weeks, we will be continuing to work with the children to familiarise themselves with the learning environments and school routines. Just a reminder that from Thursday 12th September the start and end times of the day will be from 8.45am until 3.15pm.

Baseline Assessment

During the next few weeks, we will be carrying out the statutory Baseline Assessments (RBA) which is a national requirement for all Reception children. Please visit this website for further information:

[Reception baseline assessment: information for parents - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

PE Day

Physical activity is a prime area of development in the EYFS and the children engage in physical activity throughout the course of each day. In addition, on a Wednesday, the Supa Sports Team from Plymouth Argyle will be working with the children in developing a range of physical skills in a dedicated PE session. On a **Wednesday**, please ensure your child comes to school wearing trainers, jogging bottoms or leggings, a white or red T shirt and usual red school jumper, cardigan or hoodie. We will be letting you know which 'house team' your child will be in, very soon. They will then be able to wear a t-shirt in their house team colour.

Home learning

Your child will be learning to read using the Read, Write, Inc Phonics Programme. On Monday 7th October from 2.45pm until 3.15pm, we will be holding a Phonics and Reading open afternoon, where we will share our approach to early reading development. We will also be sending out further information about the programme and how to support your child at home.

Clothing in school/ Wellies and Waterproofs

Please ensure that your child has a change of clothes and spare underwear in a bag which can be left on their peg in school. We have two afternoons dedicated to outdoor learning in our woodlands, garden and using the outdoor equipment such as the bikes and trikes. In addition to this, our balcony is open throughout the week. It is essential that the children have their waterproof clothing in school so that they are prepared for changes in the weather and they are suitably dressed for outdoor play. Puddle suits or waterproof trousers and jackets, along with a pair of wellies, are kept in the classroom. We have dedicated trollies in the classrooms for storing these. Please label all items clearly with your child's name and class.

Healthy Snacks and Hydration

We provide the children with a choice of fruit and also free milk for four-year-old children. Please ensure they have their water bottle in school, prefilled, every day. If you would like to supplement this with a bread or fruit-based snack for the afternoon, please do so. We encourage all children to make healthy food choices. Could we ask that snacks reflect this. We have a '**no nuts**' policy and grapes must be cut in half. Thank you.

Sharing Information

Each half term we will be sending home a 'Learning Leaflet'. This will give you information about what the children will be learning in school. We aim to build on the interests and fascinations of the children as well introducing new learning.



Each week, on a Friday, we will send you some 'Ask Me' style questions via 'Parent Mail'. These questions support conversations with your child about their learning in school each week. Please do look out for the weekly school newsletter 'The Pen', where you will find lots of important information and also some highlights from our EYFS weekly activities. In the week beginning 11th November, we will be holding our 'Stay and Play' sessions. You will be able to sign up to come into school and spend time with your child in the learning environments, with the opportunity to talk to the Class Teacher about your child's learning and development.

Bear Diary and Creative Reading Journal

Poldhu and Gunwalloe classes have class bears who will be visiting the homes of different children each **Friday**. Please may we ask that they be returned the following **Monday**. Every child will have the chance to have the class bear to stay over the course of the year. There is the opportunity for your child to share something about their weekend with the bear in the accompanying diary. Please use this to encourage your child to record their experiences with pictures and emergent writing or in their own creative way. Each class also has a **Creative Reading Journal**, which is designed for your child to share their favourite story with the class. Again, this is an open ended, creative opportunity for your child to share their thoughts and feelings about the text. If they would like to bring their favourite story book into school with the journal, we will read it in class.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak with us at the end of the day or contact us via the school office.

Kind regards,

The Foundation Team