

Autumn Term 1 2021

Welcome to the new school year at Weston Turville CE School. Some of you will be new to the school, so this letter is just to put you in the picture.

Class Teachers in all year groups compile a newsletter like this one, so that you have some idea what your children will be learning at school each term. Hopefully it serves as a useful resource to you as your child moves through the school. You will also receive the weekly school newsletter. Please check this as it will have upcoming dates for your diary, reply slips and other important information.

We choose various topics to use as a tool for delivering the objectives from the Early Years curriculum. This term we will spend at least three weeks settling children into their new environment and ensure they feel comfortable and safe to learn. We will link this settling in period to our topic of ourselves and our village. As part of this topic we will be looking at the stories "Colour Monster," "Owl Babies" and "Supertato". Also as part of their settling in we will use some of the children's interests to develop activities. We will also be celebrating harvest in our class.

We like to plan our activities relating to children's experiences and interests so that the children feel in control, so some of the topic might be changing slightly. Please encourage your children to tell us of any special interests or experiences they have had out of school to build a week of learning around.

Also find below the F2 Class Timetable. This is just so that you have a guide of what your child may be doing on particular days throughout the week. We also hope it will be a reminder of when PE kits of any other equipment or resources might be needed. We do not adhere to this timetable rigidly: it is more of a guide, as we like to be flexible in our teaching and take opportunities for learning as they arise. Children will not be following this timetable in full straight away, as we like to take things a step at a time. The sessions in the library will start after half term when the children will be settled. These will be on a Thursday. PE will be on Monday afternoon when we go full time.

The nature of the work done in Foundation is very reliant on consumable materials. Sadly the budget does not always cover our needs and we do like to make the children's learning as fun and as interesting as possible. Should you be in the supermarket and you would like to support the school by buying some resources, we would be very grateful. We will let you know what we are running low on. Plain flour, cream of tartar and salt are greatly appreciated as we will be frequently making new playdough.

We love to do cooking with the children because it offers great mathematical opportunities (counting, measuring, number recognition), communication and language, science (looking at materials changing form), healthy eating, sharing and so much more. Since we don't have any allocated money for cooking, we will ask for a small contribution from parents (around £3) to build up a small budget to buy the ingredients; the more parents will contribute, the more cooking we will be able to do with the children. Thank you in advance for this.

We look forward to meeting you all and getting to know you a little better over the next few weeks. We will be arranging meetings for the couple of weeks. These meetings are a chance for us to find out what your child likes to do at home and celebrate what they have achieved already.

The Foundation 2 Team

Prime Areas of Learning

Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Communication and Language	Physical Development
<p>Getting to know others Independent choice of activity Listening Board Games Sharing with friends Circle time Tidying up Dressing and undressing for P.E Learning rules and routines Good behaviour</p>	<p>Listening and responding to stories Using puppets Reciting nursery rhymes Hearing sounds Retelling and making stories</p>	<p>Learning about health and safety rules Large construction kits Using wheeled toys Pouring sand and water Malleable activities (playdough) Finger strengthening - threading, pegging. Using scissors and other tools</p>

Specific Areas of Learning

Literacy	Mathematics	Understanding the World
<p>Letter formation Daily Phonics Looking at, sharing and discussing books Exploring new vocabulary</p>	<p>Singing number songs and rhymes Playing number games and puzzles Exploring shapes Counting Looking at patterns in the environment</p>	<p>Describing people Our personal history Our village Describing ourselves in positive terms Safe use of technology</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Expressive Arts and Design</p> <p>Looking at colours Printing Collage Role play Making models Listening to and playing instruments Dancing</p>	

*All these areas of learning have equal weighting on the children's profiles, so if you do wish to do some activities with your children at home, please remember not to focus solely on Literacy and Numeracy.

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Monday	Register, Timetable and Calendar	Dough Disco	Phonics /Maths	Squiggle While You Wiggle	Infant Activity Morning	Plenary and Singing	Lunch	Register	Phonics/Maths	Discovery Time	Yoga and Funky Fingers		Story and Collective Worship
Tuesday					Teacher Input and Discovery Time					PE			
Wednesday					Teacher Input and Discovery Time					Discovery Time			
Thursday					Teacher Input and Discovery Time					Discovery Time			
Friday					Teacher Input and Discovery Time					Discovery Time			

Discovery time - Child initiated learning through play and adult directed activities.

Dough Disco - tapping and moulding a small piece of dough to develop the children' hand strength and dexterity.

Squiggle While You Wiggle - Dancing with scarves using the large movements which support writing.

Funky Fingers - a range of activities to develop hand strength.

Helicopter Stories - A child dictates a story to an adult. The story is read to the class while some of the class act it out.