



Sheepscombe Primary School
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Head teacher: Mrs Vicky Barron BSc Hons GTP Primary

Wednesday 15th January

Dear Parents & Carers,

Thank you for a very warm welcome to Sheepscombe last week. It was lovely to meet so many parents on Thursday afternoon so thank you for taking the time to come along and say hello. I will try my very best to remember which parent belongs to which child but please bear with me on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons when I dismiss the children at 3.15 if I'm looking all around for the correct adult! I will try my very best to have the children ready with all of their belongings so that we can get them out swiftly. As a parent myself, I appreciate that it can be frustrating waiting for your child to come out of school, especially if you have somewhere to be or it's raining.

Merlin Class Staff

My working week will continue to be the same as Ms Murphy's and Mrs Barron will continue to teach the class on Fridays and alternate Monday afternoons. Mrs George will continue to support Merlin class on a Wednesday afternoon and alternate Monday afternoons and Mrs Lane is with the children all week. Mr Dangerfield also continues in his role as Teaching Assistant across the week, supporting in Merlin on the busier Little Lambs days. Gemma continues to volunteer on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

Morning routine

The children were extremely independent coming into class last week and they chose to play with their friends or listen to a story. It was great to see so many children hanging up their coats, putting their book bags in the box and placing drinks bottles on the table with confidence.

Please can we just remind you that, as previously, children need to come into the 'green room' (on the right, with the green carpet) without parents in the morning so that they can settle at an activity or story alongside staff prior to registration which is at 8.50 a.m.

It is important that children come through first thing and not play in the 'blue room' (on the left, with the blue carpet) or conservatory as then we know where those children are whose parents have left already and can keep them safely in our care whilst the main door is open for arrivals. After parents have left and the door closed then both classrooms are then able to be utilised for play.

At least one member of staff will be with the children in the 'green room' and at least one member of staff will be supporting with handover in the 'blue room'. If your child needs support with separation we are happy to help, for example by helping them to wave to you at the window. Please be reassured that most of the children who are a little upset at first, soon settle happily and we will always call you if they don't.

Book bags

Children should continue to bring their book bags to school Wednesday-Friday. They will be read with weekly and books will continue to be changed once a week.

School lunch orders

Many of you sent your child's lunch order to Mrs Powell last week which made life a lot easier so thank you to those who did this. We will always check your child's lunch choice each morning during registration and check



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that all packed lunches are in the cloakroom. Please talk to your child about lunch choices for the week ahead as we had lots of children saying they didn't like what was on their order and changing their mind. If we notice they are not eating much lunch we will of course let you know. I had the privilege of eating with the children at lunchtime last week and they sat really well, talked with their friends and cleared their plates independently. The hot dinners were delicious and the puddings went down very well!

Things you can send in to school

We are hoping to create an igloo out of 4 pint plastic milk containers. Please can you send in any washed containers for us to use. We are always in need of 'junk modelling' materials too so please continue to send these in.

And finally.....Toys

A few children had toys that they had brought in from home last week. Although it's always lovely to see what the children play with at home, it's quite distracting for them and others when they are learning as a whole class and they have the toys in their hands. Also, if they got lost during the day children can become quite upset, which we don't want. Merlin class is extremely well resourced with toys so please encourage your child to leave their own toys at home as far as you can, thank you.

The children will have the opportunity to bring items in from home to talk about throughout the year. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Having a new teacher mid-year is a challenge for the children to cope with, so if you need to speak to me about anything or you have questions/concerns, please feel free to pop in after school - the door is always open.

Many thanks

Mrs Wellings & Mrs Lane



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