



While your child is with us, please rest assured that we will do all we can to ensure they feel safe and respected and have the best opportunities to develop their learning through self-chosen and adult-directed activities.

Some important points to note for this year...

Children will need a bag for school for reading books, letters and their own 'creations' to bring home, if you don't already have a bag, school reading bags are available from Mrs. Pick in the office for £5.50

PE will be on **Monday and Friday** and all children need to have an indoor kit of a t-shirt, shorts and black pumps and an outdoor kit of jogging trousers/leggings and trainers please (kit needs to be kept at school and will be sent home at the end of each half term to be washed) **NO JEWELLERY** is allowed on these days for Health and Safety reasons so please ensure any earrings (even studs) are **removed** on PE days - thank you for your support in this matter

The children will join Ducklings Nursery now and then for their 'Welly Walks', a pair of wellies can be kept in school on your child's peg for these times, plus use in our grounds at playtime and in our Outdoor Learning Area on wet days

Please make sure that all items of clothing, lunchboxes and drinks bottles are clearly labelled with your child's name and class

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Welcome to Harlequin Class

Stay and Play

After an initial settling-in period, parents will be invited to stay with their child, if they wish, on a Thursday morning between 8.45 and 9.15 am. During this time, a variety of activities will be available for you to access with your child in Harlequin Class and Ducklings Nursery.

Reading Books

Children will receive up to 2 reading books per week which will be changed at the teacher's discretion, these books will be read at school with an adult, but also need to be practised at home to develop your child's progress. Children will also have a Reading Record Book which is a home-school link for both parents and school staff / parent volunteer helpers to comment in concerning your child's reading progress

Homework - Reception

Reception children will receive reading books to practise at home and phonics activities / key words to learn - more information will follow linked to the activity to be completed

Homework - Year 1

Year 1 children will also receive up to 2 reading books to practise at home, plus weekly spellings and mental maths / times tables to learn (which will be tested in school). The children will also receive a homework 'scrapbook' which will require parental support to research and record their child's response to an open title over two weeks. For example, the title may be 'Reds and Blues' and your child may choose to respond by researching different football teams that play in red or blue strip, or they may be more creative and choose to look into shades of colour which can be mixed by adding more and more white to red and then blue... It is our intention that the children will learn important research skills by choosing what aspect of the open title they would like to explore and homework will be of more interest and relevance because the child can choose their own way to present what they have found out, be it painting, cooking, model-making, writing, tables of data / information etc in their scrapbook. These homework scrapbooks will be available to share during 'Stay and Play' Thursday's so that both children and parents can be inspired by others' work

**If you have any queries or concerns,
please do not hesitate to come and talk to me.**

**With thanks,
Mrs. Barclay**

