



OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Appleton CE (A) Primary School
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Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to you all. This is a brief introductory letter to give you some information and to let you know about the variety of activities that we have already planned for our fantastic Foundation Stage class.

It has been wonderful, beginning to get to know you all, and we have all been very proud of how each child has started to settle into school. There are 26 children in the class and with the unique dropping off and pick up slots we really appreciate your support in achieving this so well. This also allows us to be ready for registration and our learning. In Cherwell class our teaching assistants will be Mrs Smith (Wednesday to Friday), Mrs Morgan (Monday to Friday) and Mrs Barrett (Monday and Tuesdays).

Each day please ensure your child arrives at 8:55am with a clearly named water bottle, named uniform and named coat. We are not able to have toys or other personal belongings in school at this time in order to keep us all safe. Many thanks with your support in this.

We will update you on P.E sessions later in the term, and Forest School when it returns.

Homework will be based on reading each week and will be strongly linked to the Oxford Owls website. There are sections on phonics and reading with lots of activities and online books. We will let you know more once our assessments are completed and further support you can give at home. Here is the link if you wish to take a look: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-owl/expert-help/phonics-made-easy/>

At Appleton, Phonics is taught using the *Read Write Inc* scheme. The children will learn a new sound each day, starting with the most simple sounds and gradually progressing onto more complex sounds. The scheme also provides the opportunity to learn how to form the letters, using a helpful pattern. More information about our Phonics scheme and early reading will be passed on later in the term. On the Google Class page are some further Read Write Inc links if you would like to find out more.

The draft Long Term Curriculum plan for Foundation Stage 2020-2021 is on the Cherwell Class area of Google Classrooms and the class page on the school website. Our first theme is based around a book called 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers and the whole school will also be focussing their learning on aspects of this book.

Please ask if you have any questions at drop off times if it is a quick query, via Google Classrooms or message emailed to the office if you prefer.

Best wishes and many thanks for your ongoing support, I look forward to working with you all.

Richard Gidlow and the Foundation Stage team.