

EYFS Autumn Newsletter

WELCOME

We hope you all had a wonderful summer break. It has been fantastic to welcome both new and returning children to EYFS, and we have been delighted with how well they have settled over the past two weeks. Our new children have been enjoying their first experiences at Barkisland School and Little Lambs Nursery, while returning children have quickly re-established routines and continued to build on their learning. At the start of the year, our focus is on ensuring all children feel happy, safe and secure, while gradually introducing daily routines and providing opportunities to extend and develop their learning further throughout the term.

STAFF

Reception Teacher & Unit Manager - Mrs Ayrton (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday)

Reception Teacher - Mrs Watkins (Wednesday)

Early Years Educators - Miss Cattermole (full time)

Mrs Meredith (full time & Kids Club am)

Mrs Mitchell (Monday - Friday mornings, Kids Club am & Tuesday pm)

Teaching Assistant - Mrs Sharp (Monday to Friday afternoons & Kids Club pm)

OUTDOOR LEARNING & CLOTHING

We spend lots of time outdoors in all weathers, as outdoor learning helps to develop children's physical skills, confidence, communication, problem solving and wellbeing.

To make sure your child can enjoy all of our outdoor experiences comfortably, please ensure they come with a named waterproof coat every day, suitable footwear for Nursery children (no open-toed sandals or crocs), in colder weather a warm coat, hat, scarf and gloves. **All items must be clearly named.**

Please also provide a full set of named spare clothes to leave at Nursery or School, including socks or tights, as outdoor play can sometimes be muddy or wet! Drawstring bags for these items can be bought from school via School Spider.

PE

Reception PE is Tuesday morning. On PE days, Reception children should come to school wearing their **labelled PE clothes**. Please ensure **hoodies/ jumpers are clearly named**, as these are often removed and can easily get lost.

Nursery PE is Thursday morning. Children do not need to wear PE kits, but please ensure they wear **trainers on this day**.



PARENTS as PARTNERS PLAY AND STAYS

We value the important role that parents and carers play in their child's learning and are looking forward to welcoming you into school for our Play, Stay and Learn Sessions.

To give all our new children the opportunity to settle into nursery and school routines, these sessions will begin after the October half-term. Our first sessions will be: Nursery Rhyme Time and Reception Phonics.

Details will be shared separately, including dates and times and how you can book onto these sessions. We look forward to working together to support your child's journey.



COMMUNICATION

If you have any questions, please speak to a member of the team. Alternatively, email the school office **admin@barkisland.calderdale.sch.uk** who will answer

any questions/ queries or will arrange for a member of the EYFS team to contact you.

Within Nursery & School we are promoting communication and language, so if your child comes home with an 'Ask me about...' sticker, please talk to them about it.



WATER BOTTLES and SNACKS

Children should bring a labelled sports cap water bottle every day. **Water only, please.** Children may bring a **healthy snack**, such as fruit from home. **No nuts, crisps, biscuits or chocolate**, and please ensure **grapes are cut into quarters**. We also provide milk, fruit and vegetables at snack time. Children under the age of five are entitled to free school milk. Once your child turns five, if you would like them to continue receiving milk at school, this can be ordered through the Cool Milk scheme <https://coolmilk.com/>



X (TWITTER), Facebook & Instagram

We share daily photos of learning and activities on the above platforms. Please take a look and give us a follow @BarkiSchool or like our Facebook and Instagram pages.

PLANNING & HOME LEARNING

Please refer to our **3-year planning cycle** on the website, barkislandcofeschool.org.uk (we are currently in **Cycle 2**)



MY WORLD & TRADITIONAL TALES

COLOURS EVERYWHERE! (Diwali Focus) & CHRISTMAS

TYPICAL DAY IN EYFS

Once the children have settled, each day follows a familiar routine to help them feel safe, confident and ready to learn. Our day includes a balance of adult-led and child-initiated play, with opportunities for stories, phonics, maths, outdoor learning, small group activities, snack and lunchtime, collective worship and story time. Through this balance of structured teaching and play-based learning, we help children develop independence, curiosity and a love of learning, based exploration, so that children have lots of opportunities to develop independence, curiosity, and confidence in their learning.

SHARING BOOKS and RECEPTION READING

Your child will bring home a sharing book to enjoy with you. These books are for you to read together, talking about the pictures, characters and story to develop a love of reading.

When you are ready to swap your child's book, please choose another from the book box outside the Nursery classroom or under the Reception playground shelter and record the book taken. If your child attends Breakfast or Kids Club, please ask a member of staff to change their book.

Reception children will soon begin bringing home their Monster Phonics reading books. Please read with your child as often as possible, as regular practice builds confidence and fluency. Reading books should be returned every Wednesday, with new books sent home on Friday.

Look out for details of our upcoming Reading and Curriculum Evening, where we'll share how you can support your child's reading journey at home. **SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday 14th October.**

READING SUITCASE - RECEPTION

Children will bring home the **reading suitcase**, which includes a book and hot chocolate to enjoy together. Please remember to return the **book, review and bear**.

JOLFI BEAR - NURSERY

At some point, your child will bring home the class bear for the weekend. Please return it the following week.

The bear comes with a short story to read together and a journal to complete.



KEY TEXTS, SONGS & RHYMES

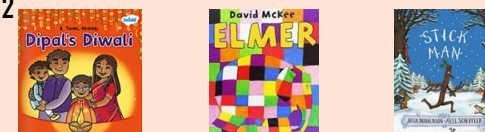
Please enjoy a range of stories linked to our themes, from home, the library or online. Sharing stories and talking about them helps develop vocabulary, imagination and a love of reading. Thank you for your support at home.

Each half term, children will explore a set of core stories and traditional tales that are revisited regularly to build confidence. They are:

AUTUMN 1



AUTUMN 2



AUTUMN 1



AUTUMN 2

TRADITIONAL TALES

TAKEAWAY HOMEWORK

Please remember to check **ClassDojo** regularly for our takeaway homework and ideas for learning at home linked to our current theme. We love seeing what the children get up to at home, so please feel free to share photos of completed homework or any WOW moments. These are a lovely way for the children to celebrate their achievements and share them with the class. Thank you for your continued support