



Hyde Park Infant School  
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13<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the children and parents who have joined our Foundation Stage in Cedar (Mrs Rose's Class), Oak (Miss Easton's Class) and Ash (Miss Martin's Class). It has been a great start for the children and I have had lots of opportunities to see the children smiling, having fun and making new friends in their classes. Please respond to the invitations to attend workshops so that you can support your child fully at home with their learning. For the children in their new Y1 and Y2 classes, it has been a rapid settling in process with new challenges and there have been lots of smiles and feelings of achievement as the children have risen to the new challenges and expectations. Please continue this positive momentum of learning by talking about what your child has achieved at school and by reading with them and to them each night and over the weekend too. I'm pleased to say that I had some lovely pictures of reading for my challenge, many of which can be seen on the website and the children are sporting their stickers too. The book hive is proving very popular and I have been impressed to see the children handling the books well and enjoying a good read. Some children have also looked out for others in the playground and invited them to share a story with them. What lovely behaviours to be seen in so many of our children – it makes my heart sing!

#### Harvest Festival

As part of our harvest festival celebrations in school, we will be linking with Devon and Cornwall Food Action to reduce food poverty. Increasingly families in our school and across Plymouth are benefitting from the work of this group. We will be taking part by making a GIANT COLLECTION of non perishable and long life food in tins and packets which can be brought to school in the next few weeks and placed at the front of the hall. Whether you can spare a packet or tin or whether it can be a whole shopping bag of food, every item will be gratefully received. We can make a difference!

#### School trips and payment

During the school year staff will plan trips(off-site) and experiences (on-site) that are extra to normal sessions. Rather than ask for funding individually we are asking for £25.00 per child payable on as a lump sum or in in installments paid by 4<sup>th</sup> November. Payments will need to be made on School Money system and you will receive texts and e mail notifications confirming login details and passwords.

#### Absence

If your child is poorly, please phone in their absence between 8.00 and 8.45 in the morning.



### Phased start for Foundation Stage Children

Please arrive in the playground and be ready for the 9am bell. If wet, you may wait with your child in the basement hall. Please collect your child at 1.15 after lunch if you are on the phased programme.

### Photographs

Letters have been sent out about school photographs which will be taken on 26<sup>th</sup> September. The letters explain choices regarding pre-school children and siblings.

### Packed lunch

Packed lunch children now eat their packed lunches in the dining hall and I have heard a number of conversations about them wanting a school dinner. I am keen for as many children as possible to take advantage of this free opportunity. Therefore, I have asked Paul to offer the packed lunch children some 'tasters' so that they can try out the school food. This will be achieved respecting children's medical needs and religious preferences. If you would like to talk to me further about this taster opportunity, please give me a ring at school.

### Water Bottles

Please carry water bottles separately or attach to the outside of the book bag. Please do not put water bottles inside book bags as they often leak and will damage the books.

Autumn is in the air and the children are noticing the apples ripening on the trees and a large number of spiders in the playground. I would love to see any photographs of seasonal things or pictures that the children have drawn and will have stickers and a chat ready. I am going to do some seasonal bee keeping at the weekend and feed my bees with a sugar solution so that they have plenty of stores to keep them going over the winter. Have a lovely weekend whatever you get up to and see how many lovely books you can enjoy with your child(ren) too.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs E A Hill  
Head Teacher