

A guide to starting Nursery at St Martin's C of E Primary School

A very warm welcome to Nursery. We are so excited to meet your children and support them as they take their first steps in their school journey. Below is a guide of everything you should need to know about starting Nursery. If you haven't already you will also receive a pack with some more detailed information.

The Little Parrots team

We have a dedicated team of experienced staff who are in every day to look after your children and support them with their learning. We all work closely with all children so that children feel comfortable to approach any of us for support or comfort, however Mrs Smith will be working particularly with our 2 year olds to provide them with additional support.

- ❖ Mrs Turner – Teacher and Nursery lead.
- ❖ Mrs Payne – Higher Level Teaching Assistant
- ❖ Mrs Smith – Early Years Practitioner (2 Year old lead)
- ❖ Mr Gambie – Early Years Practitioner
- ❖ Mrs Whitten - Forest school
- ❖ Mrs Turl – Acting Deputy Head - Early years and Key stage One lead

Nursery times:

During the COVID19 pandemic we are currently operating different start times throughout the school to support parents with social distancing. The following are the current start and finish times.

Morning:

- ❖ 8:20 - 8:40 am - First drop off
- ❖ 9:00 am - Second drop off
- ❖ 11:45 am - Lunch
- ❖ 12:00 - Morning finishes

Afternoon:

- ❖ 11:45 am - afternoon drop off
- ❖ 11:50 am - lunch
- ❖ 2.45-3:00pm - Afternoon session finishes

Please be aware that we are currently unable to welcome parents into the classroom, however staff will support your child to settle and choose an activity.

After-school club:

Our Nursery is term time only but outside of these times **FISH** will be running wrap around care which will be available 50 weeks a year 7.30-6pm. For more information please contact the School Office

Drop off and collection procedure

Drop off:

- ❖ Mrs Harvey (the Headteacher) will be at the main gate to welcome you and your children into the school and direct you to our EYFS unit. Due to Covid restrictions, we are currently only allowed to have one parent per family entering the school premises.
- ❖ Nursery staff will be at the main Nursery door to welcome you and your children and answer any questions you may have.
- ❖ There will be a one way system in operation in the school to support with social distancing which you will be directed around.

Collection:

- ❖ Please come to the main Nursery door to collect your child.
- ❖ Children's safety is paramount at all times so if you would like more time to discuss your child then please make arrangements with a member of the Nursery team.

The wider EYFS unit:

- ❖ We operate as part of an EYFS unit with our Reception classes. This means we share an outdoor provision and also have times when children can access our Reception classroom. This provides an excellent opportunity for children to access a wider provision and learn alongside older children. It also supports a smooth transition for children when they start school giving children a chance to get to know and form relationships with adults working in Reception.
- ❖ Children have access to both our indoor and outdoor provision throughout the day.

Forest school:

- ❖ We have an outdoor area outside of the classroom which is accessible all day but we also have access to the forest. The days for Forest School are Monday and Wednesday mornings, starting on Monday 14th September.
- ❖ On Forest School mornings could you please meet us at the Forest with your child already dressed in an all in one suit and wellies. We will aim to go to the forest in all weather so please ensure that your child is warm and able to stay dry in the wet weather.
- ❖ Please can you also ensure that any forest clothing is named.
- ❖ A full kit list for the forest is attached to the email.

Food and drink:

Snacks

- ❖ Fresh fruit and vegetables are available throughout the day for snack.

Drinks

- ❖ Please bring a named water bottle with water to school.
- ❖ Children will have access to their water bottles throughout the day and will be encouraged to take regular drinks.

Lunch

- ❖ Lunch will be served at 11:45
- ❖ Children's lunch options can be chosen on the day by selecting the meal that you would like on arrival to the classroom.
- ❖ If you are providing a healthy packed lunch for your child, please ensure it doesn't contain nuts, melon or kiwi due to allergies.
- ❖ Nursery staff will be there to support your children at lunchtime.

Toileting and potty training:

- ❖ We have three toilets in the classroom which children will have access to all day. We will encourage children to be as independent as possible in the toilet but will also support if they need help.
- ❖ We are more than happy to support with potty training in school so please let us know if you are currently potty training your child.
- ❖ Please provide a named change of clothes for your child just in case they need to be changed.
- ❖ If your child is still in nappies please can you provide nappies and wipes.

Class DOJO and Tapestry:

We use two apps called Class DOJO and Tapestry to communicate with you and share your child's amazing learning.

- ❖ Class DOJO - As a school we use class DOJO to send out messages and communications. You will receive general school information from the St Martin's page and also Nursery specific

communications from Little Parrots. There is also an opportunity for you to send messages if you have any questions or need to tell us anything.

- ❖ Tapestry - This is an online learning journal that we use in EYFS. It's a lovely way for us to share your children's wonderful learning with you and you can also use it to share any pictures of any home learning you have been doing.

WHAT TO BRING

- ❖ Change of clothes including socks
- ❖ Named water bottle
- ❖ Named sun hat
- ❖ Nappies/wipes (if needed)
- ❖ Named wellies every day even if we are not going to the forest
- ❖ Waterproof coat or all in One suit.
- ❖ Please avoid bringing in any toys or anything unnecessary from home as we are trying to limit the amount of belongings brought into school due to COVID.

Uniform is available and can be purchased from the school website. It is not compulsory however please be aware that clothes can get messy so anything children wear should be easily washable!

We look forward to getting to know you and your family. If you have any concerns or questions then please feel free to contact

Littleparrots1@stmartinscranbrook.devon.sch.uk or calling 01404 515409.