

To the parents of:



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first 'Foundation Newsletter' of this academic year. We hope you find this information useful and advise that you keep this letter for future reference and transfer the key dates to your family diary / calendar.

Thank You

Thank you for your time during our home and school visits. It was wonderful getting to know you and your child and we look forward to further developing these relationships during the year.

Welcome!

We are delighted to welcome you all into our Christ Church School family! We have an open door policy and are keen to develop good working relationships with you all. We welcome your questions and also love to hear about your children's adventures and successes at home. (For example your child could bring in a swimming certificate or a photo of them at a special family event or riding their bike without stabilisers for the first time.)

Contact List

In your last Induction Pack, we included a contact list. If you are on this list it is because you gave permission for us to share your contact details with the families in your child's cohort. As your child develops new friendships throughout the year, we hope you will find this a useful way of contacting families to arrange play dates etc. If your details are not on the contact list and you would like them to be added, please hand one of the teachers a note recording the contact details you wish to add and we will include them in our next newsletter to you.

John Tucker's email address was incorrect on the contact list. This is the correct email.

helentucker26@gmail.com

The Foundation Team

We are extremely lucky to have an experienced, hardworking, happy staff team in Foundation and we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the adults.

Squirrel Class

Miss Lucy Martin (Class Teacher – Full time)

Hedgehog Class

Mrs Sarah Robinson (Class Teacher – Full time)

Otter Class

Mrs Wendy Blankley (Class Teacher – Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday pm)

Mrs Lisa Morling (Class Teacher – Wednesday am, Thursday and Friday)

Learning Support Assistants

Mrs Kath Button (Everyday)

Mrs Solveig Larson Barker (Everyday)

Mrs Alison Lapes (Everyday)

On a Wednesday morning or afternoon, the class teachers will be released from the classroom to carry out planning, preparation and assessment tasks. On this day, the children are in for a real treat! They will be taught by familiar teachers; Mrs Blankley, Mrs Morling and Mrs Jones. They are excited to be leading our 'Outdoor

Adventurers' curriculum (please ensure your child has wellies and waterproofs in school at all times to ensure they don't miss out), P.E. and Music and movement with the Foundation children.

Morning Routine Reminder

Following our Induction meeting when we asked you to collect a reading book on the playground, we have reviewed the changes to our outside space, we have decided to ask the children to collect a reading book from inside their classroom instead. Therefore there is now only one job to do before coming inside, which is:

- Place their bottle in their class water trolley. Please **support** your child to do this independently.

Squirrels and Hedgehogs will enter through the brown doors, Otters through the brown doors on the Quad.

As you enter the cloak area, please help your child to do the following:

- Hang coats on their pegs and if your child has a lunch box, please ask them to put it on the floor under their peg.
- Say hello or good morning to adults in the team and each other!
- Choose a lunch sticker to display on the self-registration photo boards. For packed lunch, there is one sticker, "I am packed lunch!" For school dinners there are 3 choices: a 'main' option (red), a 'jacket potato' option (blue) and a 'vegetarian' option (green). The menu is displayed in each classroom above the lunch registration photo boards.
- Choose a class book and put it in your book bag. This is a book intended for you to share not for your child to read independently.
- Put book bags away in their named drawer and then find something or someone to play with. Please settle your child at an activity, or with an adult if necessary, before leaving them.
- You should have signed up for a staggered start time on your home or school visit. Mr. Baker has permitted a staggered entry time until **18th September**. From then on, please ensure your child arrives promptly by the school start time - **8.40am**. We complete the register at 8.50am - please can we ask you to ensure that your child is settled in their classroom by this time.
- We hope that the children will become increasingly independent with their morning routine as the weeks progress.

A Reminder of the Induction Timetable

Date	Start Time	Pick up	Location
HOME VISITS Monday 4 th , 5 th , 6 th and 7 th September			
FIRST MORNING Friday 8 th September	8:40, 8:50, 9am (depending on the time you have signed up for)	12 noon Hedgehog 12.05pm Squirrel 12.10pm Otter	Black gates at side of the school.
Monday 11 th , September and Tuesday 12 th September	8:40, 8:50, 9am (depending on the time you have signed up for)	12 noon Hedgehog 12.05pm Squirrel 12.10pm Otter	Black gates at side of the school.
<i>STAYING FOR LUNCH and BREAK</i> Wednesday 13 th September, Thursday 14 th and Friday 15 th	8:40, 8:50, 9am (depending on the time you have signed up for)	1.15pm Hedgehog 1.20pm Squirrel 1.25pm Otters	Black gates at side of the school.

FULL TIME Monday 18 th September	8:40am	3:10pm	Pick up location – green gates outside the Foundation Classrooms.
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Allergies

There are children within Foundation and throughout the school who have **severe nut allergies**. Please help us keep these children safe. **WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL.** Please do not send in any nuts or food items that contain nuts into school with your child – please be especially mindful regarding checking snacks eg: cereal bars etc... The children have been told that they must not share their food at school and we hope you will support us with this important message at home. Thank you for your cooperation.

Drinks

Water bottles that are placed on the trolley must contain **JUST WATER**. We recognise the many benefits of being well hydrated and will encourage all children to drink regularly throughout the school day. In order to help us monitor all children's water consumption, we encourage clear bottles.

Also *please give your child a separate re-sealable drink for lunchtime if they are packed lunches*. The children are not allowed into the classrooms at lunchtime and therefore cannot use their water bottles that are on the trolleys. At lunchtimes, water fountains are available for all children when they are on the playground and water is provided in the dinner hall for children having school dinners.

Book Bags

We will use your child's book bag as one of the ways we will communicate with you. Many letters and other information will be placed in your child's drawer for them to take home to you in their book bag. Please can we ask you to **CHECK YOUR CHILD'S BOOK BAG DAILY** and also support your child to ensure they are putting correspondence into their book bag. It is also advisable to check your child's drawer on a regular basis!!

Head Bump Notes

If your child bumps their head while at school, this will be noted in the medical book and dealt with appropriately. A note will also be sent home via your child's book bag to inform you of the incident. Another reason why it is so important to check your child's book bag on a daily basis. Your child may also be wearing a 'head bump' sticker.

Pushchair Reminder

Please leave pushchairs outside. The cloakroom is a very busy area in the mornings and unfortunately there is not enough room for pushchairs as well. We appreciate this is hard with younger siblings and would like to thank you for accommodating this request.

Labels.....Please!

Please continue to ensure that **EVERY** item of clothing coming to school is clearly named with your child's **FULL NAME** (NOT just initials please). It is likely that many of the children will have the same make and size of school shoes – *please name shoes too*. On any one day, there are more than 400 green school jumpers on the school site. It will be very difficult for us to support your child with taking care of their belongings if they are not clearly named. Also, please can you ensure that if your child has *a lunchbox it is clearly named on the outside*, so we can quickly find the rightful owner! Any lost property from Foundation without a name on will be placed in the school's lost property area.

Coats

Please can you ensure your child has an appropriate coat and footwear for the weather, e.g. in wet weather, please send them in a water proof coat and shoes/boots. At Christ Church we believe in the benefits of fresh air and time to run around so ***even if the weather is a little damp and drizzly we will still go outside to play!***

PE Days

Please ensure that your child has their named PE kit in school every day. Your child is very welcome to leave their PE kit in school all term – we will ensure it is sent home for washing at the end of each term. As mentioned in our welcome meetings, **your child will not need trainers until the Spring**. Long hair must be tied up and earrings must be taken out or covered over for PE sessions. Your child will usually enjoy 2 PE lessons a week at school – the days of these sessions may change depending on the other activities we have planned. Their first PE session will be on Wednesday 13th September.

Spare Clothing

We are aware that you have provided your child with a spare pair of underwear in case of a toilet accident at school. However, we do also have spare clothing in Foundation. If your child has a toilet accident in school and comes home in Foundation spare clothing, please could you wash and return them as soon as possible. Incidentally we are always running out of socks, underwear and trousers - especially later on in the year. If you are having a clear out and have any that you would be able to donate to our collection we would be extremely grateful!

Pre-School Reports

Thank you to all parents who have already kindly shared pre-school reports with us. We are happy to receive any others. Please let us know if you would like them returned afterwards. (Some settings sent us copies in Term 6, if you are unsure if we have your child's transition report then please ask your child's class teacher.)

Birthdays and Toys

As a whole school rule, we ask for birthday invitations to be handed out outside of the classroom please. This is to prevent any children becoming upset if they have not received an invitation. The children are welcome to bring in their favourite card or toy to show their friends on their birthday. This is the only time toys are allowed in from home as it is a very special occasion! Unfortunately we are unable to hand out cakes / sweets to the class on these occasions.

FOCCS – Friends of Christ Church School

Each year group needs at least 2 parents/carers from each class to be the named class contacts, but equally there can be more per class. We are still looking for parent contacts for this year so please let us know if you are interested!

Parent/Carer Consultations

We will be holding parent/carers consultations in October. These meetings are to discuss how your child is settling into school and we will be offering a selection of days and times. The week before the parent/carers meetings, we will put up 'sign up sheets' on the notice board at the back of the KS1 hall (opposite the class photographs) – you are invited to sign up so you can choose a day and time that is convenient. These meetings are an important time for us to have a 'grown-up' chat so we **encourage you to attend without your child**. It may suit you to follow the lead from many other Christ Church parents who often sign up for close appointments with friends and take turns to play with the children outside.

Christ Church has an open door policy so you are more than welcome to arrange to see your child's class teacher any time during the school year. Sending notes or ringing the office are other ways to contact us. You can also contact teachers via their email address. Please be aware that teachers may not respond immediately as we do not always check our emails daily. Please see below for our email addresses.

Mrs Blankley's email address	wendy.blankley@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk
Miss Martin's email address	lucy.martin@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk
Mrs Morling's email address	lisa.morling@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk
Mrs Robinson's email address	sarah.robinson@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk

Cake Days

Each Friday in the Berryfield Hall we hold a cake day. Each year group takes it in turn to set up, sell and bake cakes for the cake sell, with profits going to their year group. Cake day profits are a great way for class teachers to buy additional classroom resources – we are currently hoping to raise funds for new Maths resources. We will let you know when our first cake sale is – please, please support us by donating treats to sell and by popping in to buy a cake after school with your child.

Parent/Carer Helpers

Once the children have settled, we would be delighted to welcome parent/carers in to join us in the Foundation team. We *really* value the time and help parents give at school and would like to take this opportunity to express how invaluable you are! Parent/carers enable us to provide activities that need a lot of adult support more frequently e.g. cooking and visits.

If you are interested in helping then you will need an up to date Christ Church DBS check (Disclosure and Barring Service). This service has replaced the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) which may sound more familiar. You will now need to make an appointment with the office staff to fill out an online check. This meeting will take approximately 15 minutes. Clearance from the DBS should then take about a week. Once this process has been completed, please see your child's class teacher to organise a convenient day and time to come in and help. We look forward to hearing from you.

Curriculum

During the early part of this term, our main focus is building relationships with all the children and making sure they are settled into school life. Our next newsletter will include specific curriculum information and give more details about all the exciting learning activities we will be doing this term.

Parent Consultations
Tuesday 10th October Thursday 12th October

We are really looking forward to sharing our news and your child's successes with you over the coming weeks and months.

Many thanks
Mrs Blankley, Miss Martin, Mrs Morling and Mrs Robinson