

Dry Sandford County Primary School
Lashford Lane, Dry Sandford, Abingdon, Oxon, OX13 6EE
Tel/Fax: 01865 730 432
head.2565@dry-sandford.oxon.sch
office.2565@dry-sandford.oxon.sch.uk
www.dry-sandford.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Katie Friday BEd (Hons), QTS

Leading Lifelong Learning; Creating Caring Communities.

Friday 13th September 2024

Owlets Curriculum Letter

Dear Parents/Carers,

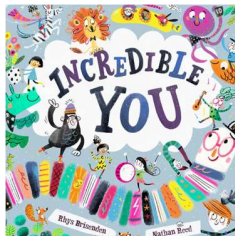
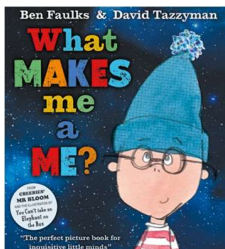
Welcome to the beginning of a new and exciting year at Dry Sandford Primary School.

I am so pleased at the way the children are settling into Reception. They are quickly adapting to their new classroom environment and learning the routine and rules of "big school". They have also been making friends and over these first few weeks we will be focusing a lot on the School Values: **Kindness, Respect, Determination and Creativity.**

We love teaching your children, so please bring them in every day, even if they have coughs or colds, as every day is precious. Please note - attendance has to be monitored by the school, including late arrivals; the register closes promptly at 9:00 am. Please let the office know if your child cannot attend and try to make appointments out of school hours where possible.

Topics

For the first half of this half term, our focus is All About Me. The children will be creating self-portraits, drawing pictures of their families and telling each other about themselves. We will also be thinking about what makes each of us unique and to support this learning we will look at books like Incredible You, What Makes Me a Me and of course the children's own All About Me books that you have helped them with over the summer. It's not too late to send your child's book in if you've not done so already!



Within our topic there will be lots of fun activities to develop other areas such as maths, literacy, social and communication skills, just to name a few! We would also like to explore living history by **asking that each child bring in a baby photo of themselves**, to compare the similarities and differences with them now. More info will be sent via Class Dojo.

The focus will then turn to learning all about **AUTUMN** and the Harvest Festival. Owlets will also be learning songs for the special Harvest Assembly – so make sure you save the date to attend (Friday 11th October).

Uniform

Please make sure all uniform items are named. This includes book bags, water bottles, wellies and coats. We will be starting Forest School in a couple of weeks. We will let you know more details in a separate letter nearer the time but having old warm clothes with lots of layers and having thick welly socks will be ideal for when the weather gets colder. Please also make sure long hair is tied back for school.

The children have a healthy fruit snack each day – please feel free to send in your own snack if you would prefer, but ensure it is something healthy. **Please note any healthy snacks brought to school must not contain nuts and no celery or kiwi fruit. We have a child with a severe allergy to these foods.**

Helping your child at home

In a couple of weeks, the children will start to bring reading books home to read aloud to you. The reading books are linked to the phonics level they are learning in school. Children make the most progress when they read daily for 5-10 minutes. Please sign and date the Reading Record Book every day when you have listened to them read. Children will also be bringing home a school Library Book, which they can keep at home for a week, and which **you** should read to/with them. Children learn from real life experiences, and you can help your child by involving them in activities at home such as:

- Writing their first name
- Practising phonics- letter sounds they might see out and about and playing games such as Alphablocks: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks> and Numberblocks
- Making up and telling stories
- Counting objects found around the house and matching numbers to quantities
- Counting forwards and also backwards like a rocket count down!
- Using paints, play dough and threading to help strengthen their pencil control.
- Helping to write or draw pictures of their favourite things, or for your shopping list.

Donations

We believe that cooking, tasting and special creative activities are valuable learning experiences and in order to make this a regular activity we would appreciate a contribution of around **£3:00** in September, January and April to help to cover the cost. We are also always grateful to receive materials for pictures and model-making, as well as things that can be used in role play - large pieces of material, cardboard boxes, carpet tiles, cartons, wool, old birthday cards, plant pots, newspaper etc.

Finally – well done to you all for signing up to Class Dojo! I will post updates and information about the class on this platform as well as the occasional photo! Please note we will not be using the messaging facility so please continue to speak to either myself, Mrs Bernasconi or Miss Archer (Wednesday TA) if you have any concerns or queries.

Thank you for your help and support in your children's learning - from **Miss Lambie**