

April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Arrangements for Starting School

Welcome to Arbury Primary School. We are really looking forward to meeting you and getting to know you and your child. This is a very exciting time!

Getting ready for school

Pre-School Visits

This term, our staff will visit your children in their pre-school settings to meet them and to talk to the practitioners about their interests and learning journey so far. If your child is not attending a pre-school setting, we will be in touch to make an alternative arrangement.

'Stay and Play' sessions – Thursday 27th June, Thursday 4th July and Thursday 11th July at 1.45 until 2.45pm.

We will be holding three 'Stay and Play' sessions in school for children to attend with their parents/carers. This is a chance for you to come and visit our classroom spaces, meet the staff that will be working with your child, meet other families who are starting school with us and have some fun together. We have found that children find this a really positive experience and very much hope that you will join us for all three sessions.

Session 1 – A chance to explore the EYFS learning space.

Session 2 – A chance to explore the KS1 forest area.

Session 3 – A teddy bear's picnic and story with your child's new teacher.

Please arrive at the KS1 playground (either the top gate, to the left of the carpark or the side gate to school, at the end of Roland Close - off Brimley Road).. Gates will be open from 1:40pm. You will be met in the playground by senior staff and class teachers, who will walk you round to the Early Years area.

Starting School in September

Week 1

Thursday 5th September & Friday 6th September (mornings only)

Children will come into school for the morning, arriving at 9am (this is slightly after the other children to ensure a quieter start). Children will enjoy a morning at school and then will be collected at 12pm. Please arrive at the KS1 playground (either the top gate, to the left of the carpark or the side gate to school, at the end of Roland Close - off Brimley Road). You will be met in the playground by senior staff and class teachers, who will walk you round to the Early Years area. You will have lots of time to chat with us and ask any questions you have. You are welcome to stay with your child for the first 15 minutes, to ensure they are settled, and then let them know you are going, and leave. You will then need to return to collect your child at 12pm (from the main hall, which is where your child will be collected each day).

Week 2

Monday 9th & Tuesday 10th September (mornings only, including lunch)

Children will be at school for the whole morning, including having lunch together. They may bring a packed lunch from home, or have a free school dinner. The children will arrive at 8:50am (gates open from 08:45) and be collected at 1.30pm.

Wednesday 11th September onwards

From our experience, we anticipate that, by Wednesday 11th September, children will be ready to be in class full-time, arriving at 8.50am (gates open from 8:45am) and being collected at 3.25pm.

We understand that some parents will need a full time place from the first day of term due to other commitments. If this is the case, please don't let this be a source of worry for you, just let us know so we can plan ahead.

Website

We use the school website as our main way of communicating and sharing information with you. Over the coming weeks, there will be a special section called 'Starting Reception in September 2024'. In this section, you will find lots of pictures, videos and information about our school. We will also cover some Frequently Asked Questions. We will continue to update this section – please do return often. We have another area called 'News and Events' which acts as a little photo gallery – you might like to browse through there with your child and look for some of the activities the children in Class 1 and 2 are getting up to at the moment (you might especially like to look at the forest area pictures!).

We are really looking forward to meeting you all. In the meantime if you have any questions, do feel free to email Sophie Morris (Assistant Headteacher) at smorris@arbury.cambs.sch.uk.

Ben Tull
Headteacher

Sophie Morris
Assistant Headteacher

Ben Sapsford
Early Years Lead