

July 2021






Starting School Information

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello and welcome to Arbury Primary School! We hope you are feeling as excited as we are to come together in our new classes and get to know one another. We want to help your starting school experience to be as smooth as possible and we hope the following information will answer any questions you may have about what you need to bring or how to prepare. If you have any questions about starting school, please do not hesitate to contact us.

“What do I need to bring to school?”

Please provide:






A full set of named, spare clothes (including underwear and socks!) to be left in a bag on your child's peg.	
A pair of named shorts and a named t-shirt in a bag for your child to change into for PE lessons (please include a pair of trainers during summer term).	
Clothes for Forest School/ outdoor play: a named waterproof with hood, named welly boots and either waterproof trousers or a puddle suit. It is ideal if these can also be left in school on your child's peg/class welly boot rack.	
A named bottle of sun cream and a sun hat during hotter months. Both of these items should be named.	
All children are entitled to school meals, but if you would prefer to provide a packed lunch, please ensure that their lunch box is named.	

We will provide:

- A named label for your child's peg which will be waiting for them on their first day.
- A named water bottle (please take this home daily to refill with clean water).
- A named book bag and a reading record booklet – more on this to follow!
- All exercise books, paper and stationery items (e.g. pencils, pencil crayons, felt-tips, scissors, glue etc.).

“How can I get ready for school?”

1. Listen to the reception teachers and teaching assistants introduce themselves and read you a story all about starting school.
2. Complete your ‘All About Me’ booklet together, ready to give to your teacher. If you need a paper copy, contact the school office.
3. Read your copy of ‘Jay, Alex and Sophia are coming to Arbury Primary School’ together (this will be sent to you).
4. Look at the school website together and find the section called ‘Starting Reception in September 2021’. Look at pictures and videos of the school building, classroom, forest and teachers, and talk together about what you are looking forward to.
5. Practise becoming more independent: going to the toilet on their own, zipping/unzipping coats, putting on shoes/socks, using cutlery etc.
6. Have a go at the following activities to get ready for the types of experiences you will enjoy at school. We hope some of these ideas are things you like doing already!

Top tips for the best ways to help your child		Tick (as many times as you like)
1	Read, share books, go to the library 	
2	Go out on visits 	
3	Play with print (letters and numbers) 	
4	Sing songs and nursery rhymes 	
5	Draw and paint, and play with friends 	

(Based on research, these 5 activities are shown to have the biggest impact)

We hope that the information in this letter, alongside the pictures and videos on the website, will help you and your child feel reassured and ready for September. We can't wait to meet you all soon!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Griffin (Class 1 Teacher) and Mr Sapsford (Class 2 Teacher)