



Shamblehurst Primary School, Wildern Lane, Hedge End,
Southampton, Hampshire SO30 4EJ

Telephone: (01489) 782342

Email: adminoffice@shamblehurst.co.uk

Website: www.shamblehurst.co.uk

Headteacher: Anna Jones

Deputy Headteacher: Sally Mohamed

13th September 2021

Dear Year R Parents,

Welcome to Shamblehurst

We are really pleased with how the children are beginning to settle into school and hope that you feel the same. We thought it was important to share with you a little bit about what to expect over the next coming weeks so that you feel informed about what your child is doing in school.

Our Learning Focus

At Shamblehurst, we place great emphasis on children's emotional wellbeing as we believe that if we can get this right, children will be ready and willing to learn. Therefore, our focus this half term will be on learning new routines, getting to know the classroom environment as well as getting to know each other. Our learning will be based around the question 'I wonder what makes me a learner?'

We will be playing fun games in small groups, singing lots of songs and rhymes and exploring the autumn season.

Seesaw

Seesaw is an online learning journal which many of you will know, if you have older children in our school. It means we can upload photos and observations to each child's account, for you to access electronically.

Seesaw is new to the Year R staff so we are having a few days of exploring it ourselves before we send home the code you need to access it.

Once you get your code, we will further explain how we use it to support learning.



My child keeps talking about 'Cool' time.

'Cool' time or 'choose our own learning' time is when children get to make decisions about what and who to play with. This really evolves over the year as children's language, problem solving and risk taking develops.

Adults learn the most about the children at 'cool' time and we are currently busy making observations of the children to help us make accurate assessments.

P.E

P.E will begin after the October half term. We will let you know when your child's P.E day will be.



Polite Reminder

Please ensure **all** clothing is name labelled as children can get very upset when they can't find their belongings. Don't forget to bring your child's wellies in as we go outside in all weathers!

Planning Preparation and Assessment time (PPA) for Teachers

Teachers are entitled to have PPA time out of class. This means that your child will be taught by another member of the Early Years team on this day.

Mrs Engler will be covering PPA for both classes as well as Mrs Tollefsen's leadership time.

Year R Staff

Since meeting with you in the summer term we have employed an additional adult to support in Year R. We thought it would be useful to let you know who everyone is.

Mrs Tollefsen - Early Years Leader and Class Teacher of Bee class

Mrs Hanslip - Early Years Assistant of Bee Class

Mrs Chandler - Class Teacher of Dragonfly class

Mrs Young - Early Years Assistant of Dragonfly class

Mrs Lovell - Learning Support Assistant, working across both classes.

Mrs McFarlane and Mrs Curtis – Learning Support Assistants, providing 1-1 support.

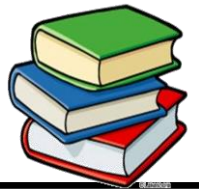
Over the year, you may also hear your child talking about Mrs Pyle. She works across the school, supporting communication and language and providing additional support for children who require speech and language therapy.



Reading Books

We will soon be sending home books from the library, along with a reading diary so you can log the reading you do at home with your child. You can never read too many books so we encourage you to write about **any** books you have shared together, not just the ones from school.

Please look out for the additional letter about reading. We change library books once a week and will let you know when this is.



Polite Request

We don't always get everything right but if you don't let us know we can't do anything about it, so we strongly encourage you to come and ask us questions. We promise we don't bite!

We hope this information is of use to you and gives you an insight into what we are covering over this half term. We will keep you informed about developments in Year R over the year, by emailing you half termly letters.

We will also email a weekly learning letter as requested by parents in previous years. This will give you an overview of the main things we cover in the week and suggestions of ways to help at home.

And finally,

We look forward to getting to know you and your child over the coming year and we will keep you updated about all the wonderful learning that will take place. Until then, have a great half term from everyone in the Early Years team.

