

**Please bring these every day:**

Water bottle (only water if possible please)

Bookbag

Coat

Spare pants

**PE Lessons**

Children will get changed into their PE kit at school. PE will take place on Thursday mornings, but please ensure that your child has a full kit in school every day as it's extremely handy if they need a change of clothes. PE kit will be sent home for a wash at the end of each half term.

**Forest School**

Forest School sessions will be on a Wednesday morning.

Children should come to school in their Forest School clothes (dark coloured trousers/joggers, long sleeve t-shirt and a coat).

Please provide a pair of outdoor shoes or wellies to keep at school (they will change into these every Wednesday before we go outside).

**Labelling Property**

Please ensure that coats, hats, wellies, gloves, PE kit, uniform, water bottles, book bags, etc. are clearly named. If we can read the name there is a very good chance that lost items will find their back to you. Please check your washing/ironing regularly to make sure that name labels are attached and visible and that the clothes belong to your child. If your child brings home clothing that doesn't belong to them, just send a short Dojo message to let us know and return the clothes to school for re-distribution!

**Finally, should you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us, initially using a Class Dojo message or at the gate at the end of the day. If your query will require a lengthier response, please telephone the school office to arrange an appointment so that we can make sure we are able to have a quality discussion.**

# Orchard Primary School

## Foundation Stage Overview



**Autumn Term 2025**

## Classroom News ...

### Staffing

Class teachers are Mrs McGravie for Green Apples and Mrs Shearsby (Mon-Thu) for Red Apples. Our support staff are Mrs Fordham (who will teach Red Apples on Fridays), Mrs Bucknall, Mrs Furniss, Mrs Sharpe and Mrs Bowden. All staff members will work with all the children.

Mrs Bucknall and Mrs Bowden also look after the children during their lunch time play along with Mrs Clarke and Mrs Simpson. We would like to send you a very warm welcome to Foundation Stage at Orchard School and look forward to working with the children and their families.

The children have transitioned so well and are settling beautifully into school. They are quickly learning the new routines and thoroughly enjoying the new play opportunities and getting to know the new faces.

### Class Dojo

We will be using Class Dojo to share important school and class updates, post photos of special classroom activities, and to respond to messages sent by parents, so don't forget to log in and check your notifications regularly. You will shortly also be sent an email with details about how to set up and use Tapestry, which is our online Learning Journal. Thank you to so many of you who get these apps up and running so quickly.

### Communication

- School Information will normally be sent to you via Dojo, text or e-mail. Flyers or letters with slips to return may go home via the book bag however, so please do check and empty bags regularly.

### Rewards

We set high standards in all aspects of school life. We will be discussing our '**Respect Rule**' with the children and agreeing that following this rule will help everyone feel happy and safe in school and allow them to learn to the best of their ability.

**RESPECT:** for yourself, others, property, learning.

Our school definition of respect is:

*'having due regard for someone's feelings, wishes or rights'*

- All effort is praised and may also be rewarded with Dojo points, stickers and certificates.

## We are very much looking forward to the term ahead and to all the exciting activities we have planned.

This half term's learning adventure will welcome children to Orchard and encompass all things Autumn and Harvest. We will be looking out for signs of Autumn and collecting natural Autumn objects. Look out for some cooking with Autumn fruit and the story of The Little Red Hen. We will then look at developing skills in Maths, Literacy and Understanding the World through our 'Dark Nights, Bright Lights' learning adventure in the second half of the term.

During the first half term we will be focusing on the three Prime Areas of the EYFS Curriculum. These are:

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

The children will be encouraged to develop their interaction skills, understand and regulate their emotions, look at how they view their behaviour and its consequences and begin to understand about how to be a great learner.

### Physical Development:

The children will experiment with large scale (gross motor) movements; running, jumping, climbing, throwing and balancing etc. They will also be encouraged to develop their fine motor skills through threading, cutting, drawing, writing, using cutlery etc.

The children will be practising getting undressed and dressed as independently as they can and will be encouraged to demonstrate good health and hygiene practices, as well as showing an understanding of how to keep themselves safe.

### Communication and Language:

The children will talk and listen to other's responses 1:1 and in small groups. They will explore books, listen to and join in with lots of stories; talk about, retell and role play stories through small world and drama.

The children will begin their daily phonics sessions; learning about rhyme and alliteration, developing their listening skills and memory, their ability to distinguish sounds; introducing 'sound talk' and sound/letter recognition.

In Maths, the children will be developing their knowledge of counting, number, pattern and shape, and using their own ideas to solve problems.