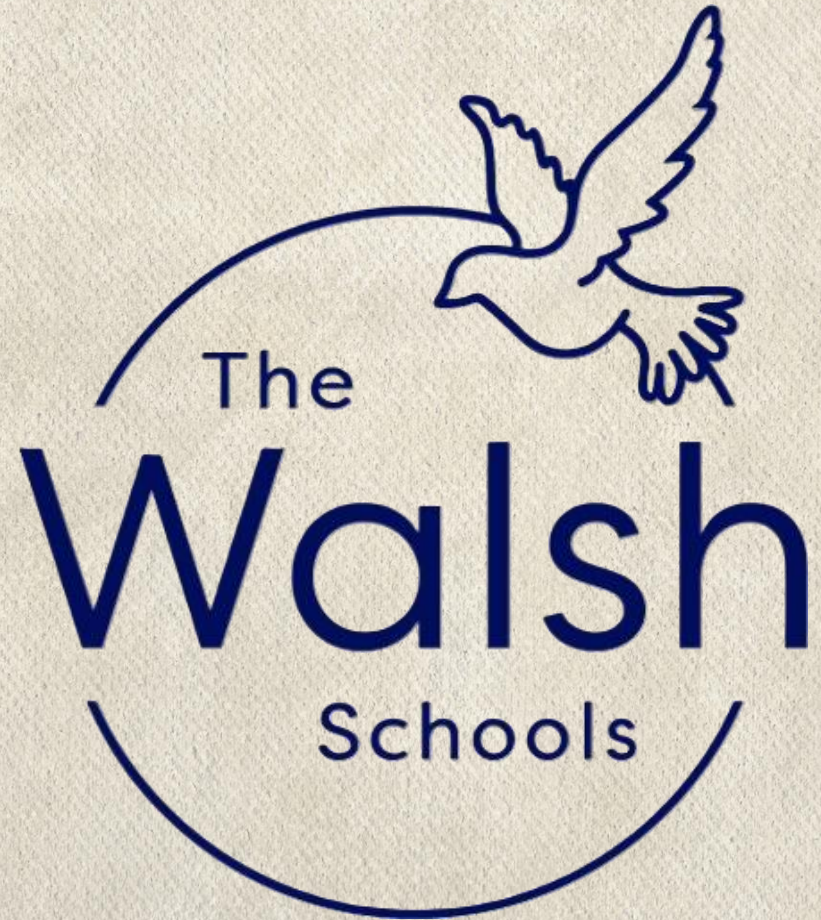


Welcome to Early Years at The Walsh Schools





Our Aim

To help you gain a better
understanding of your child's first
few weeks at school and welcome
you to our school family.



Flourishing together,



with God as our firm foundation.

'You are Peter and on this rock I build my Church.' Matthew 16:18



Our School Values

Our Vision

"Our vision is to create a peaceful, nurturing Christian school community where everyone knows they belong. Our inclusive approach ensures that everyone is valued, has high aspirations and given opportunities to flourish in every area of life."

'Nothing will be impossible with God' Luke 1 v 37

Our School Values

Community



The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)
We should love and include everyone and we are all equal

Peace



Jesus calms the storm (Matthew 8:23-27)
In the midst of a struggle and difficulties there can be peace

Love



The Prodigal son Luke (15:11-32)
We all make mistakes but God still loves us

Resilience



The lost coin (Luke 15:8-10)-
Keep on trying, don't give up and you can achieve your goal



Hedgehog Class



Miss Faul
Class Teacher



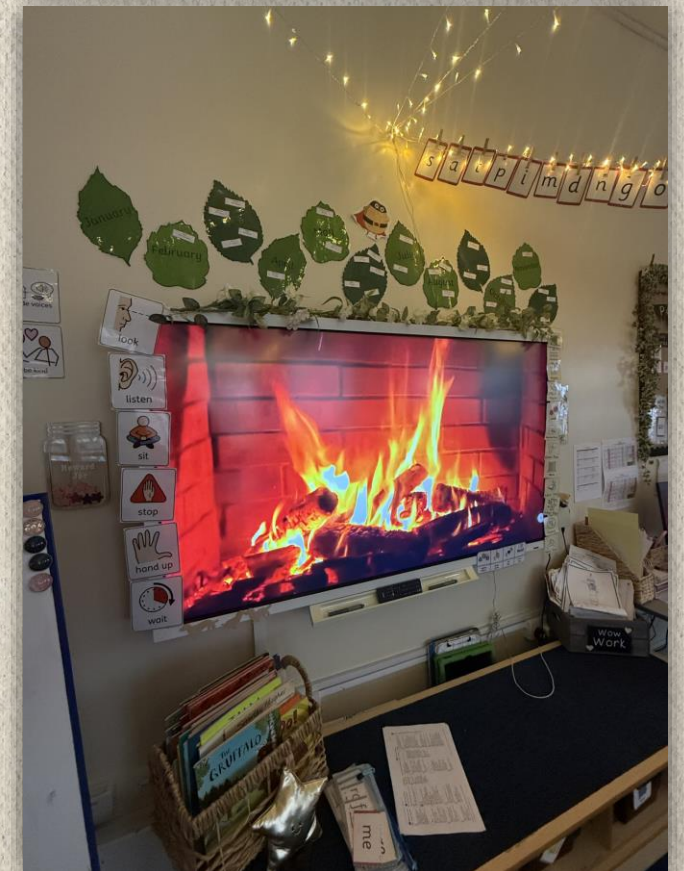
Ms Christmas
HLTA



Ms Sowerby
LSA



Hedgehog Class





Otter Class

Mrs Collett
Class Teacher



Ms Christmas
HLTA



Mrs Taylor
LSA



Otter Class





Our Class Mascots

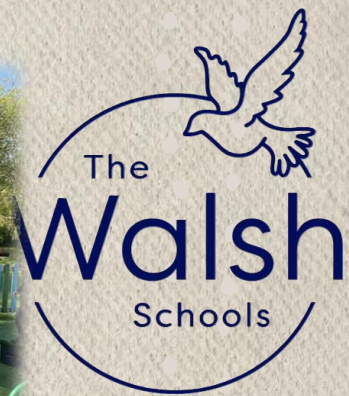
Friday friends



Pog
the Hedgehog



Pip
the Otter



Our Outdoor Area



Transition into school

- Nursery Visits

- Stay and Play Sessions

- Teddy Bears Storytime

- Home Visits



Stay and Play Sessions

We will split the children by their age with a session for the older children and a session for the younger children. This will take place in our outside area with their parents.

Session 1:

Monday 29th June

Thursday 2nd July

Children will find out their classes and attend the sessions without their adults. This will take place in their classrooms. Parents will be attending a meeting in the school hall.

Session 2:

Monday 6th July

Thursday 9th July



Teddy bears story & Home Visits



Dates: 14th July

Children will hear a story in their classes, from their teacher and then be invited to play. Parents will attend with them.

- First 3 days in September – (Wed- Fri are home visits)
- Staggered entry into school, full time by Thursday.



A day in the life in EYFS

- Registration and talk time.
- Children have a mixture of play-based learning and short lesson inputs, these increase as the year goes on. Children are taught all of the prime and specific areas within EYFS framework including subjects such as Phonics, Literacy, Maths and Topic.
- Children have snack time around mid-morning, we use this time to talk and share stories, we discuss healthy eating and things we do outside of school!
- Reception children engage in a range of child-initiated learning and teacher focused learning throughout the day.
- When the children are settled in, we will group them in small groups, named after colours. This supports organisation and independence and helps us keep track of what the children are accessing each week.
- The children have access to outdoor learning throughout the day in our own Reception area.



A day in the life in EYFS





Lunchtime





In the mornings and home time...

In the mornings you will enter the playground from the small gate and walkthrough the playground where you can say goodbye to your child. They will be met by a member of staff and taken to their classroom.

In the classroom the children will be met by another adult who supports them to put their things away.

We use the same system for home time and collect your child from the gate in our garden and by the steps. We finish school at 3.15pm.

Please keep younger children close to you to keep them safe in the carpark and away from the cars.



Play time





Curriculum

Our curriculum is designed to inspire a love of learning through interesting and exciting topics / threads of learning. Although we have a long-term plan for the year, to ensure we cover all skills and knowledge we also do base our learning on the interests of the children and may enhance our classroom areas to reflect these.

Term	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
	All about me	Celebrate the world	People who help us	Wild and Wonderful Animals	Once upon a time...	Journeys
Topic						



Highlights of the year



- Fireman Visit / other key workers visit.
- Millers Ark Farm Visit.
- Basingstoke canal trip and boat ride.
- 'Hook' days (where children can dress up and immerse themselves into their topic theme)
- Theatre company visit.
- Forest School
- Sports day



Phonics & Reading



At Walsh we follow the 'Little Wandle' scheme to teach children to read. We start this quickly after the children have settled and aim to teach fun, engaging, structured lessons which give your child the best start to their reading journey! Children learn a new sound daily in the Autumn term and learn to blend sounds together. They explore Phonics within their play which helps reinforce learning! Children have phonics daily and take part in 3 group reading sessions a week following the Little Wandle scheme. We assess children continuously and formally assess every 3 weeks.



Reading at home

- Children will bring home sounds and tricky words they have learnt at school in their book bags.
- Later in the Autumn term they will start to bring home decodable books and sharing books. We aim to have all children reading by Christmas.
- Please listen to your child read and read to your child every day and record it in their reading record.





Home/School Partnership



Family Talk Time

Children's communication and language skills are key in developing all areas of the curriculum and enable them to develop into confident and successful lifelong learners. Consequently, we have created some fun and interactive games that can be played at home as a family. These games develop your child's

- Vocabulary
- Sentence building
- Storytelling
- Conversational skills
- Listening Skills

Alongside reading, your child's weekly home learning is to take part in a family talk time activity.



Family Talk Time | Listening



Activity 7: What can you hear?

Tell your child: This game helps us listen and think about what we can hear in different places.

Setting up

Lay the four pictures face down on the table.

Playing the game

Tell your child: We are going to think about what we might hear in different places. Take it in turns to turn over the pictures. Ask your child where it is and what they might hear.

For example this is a garden. In the garden I might hear bees buzzing.

Top Tip...

The main idea is that good listening involves the key principles

- Sitting still
- Looking at the person who is talking
- Thinking about what the other person has said
- Taking it in turns to talk



PE



Please bring PE kits to school in their labelled bag during their first week of school. Your child's PE kit will be kept at school on their peg.

Please make sure if your child has earrings that you remove them on your PE day. If your child has long hair, please have it tied back.

Please make sure all clothes and shoes are named – even socks!

Please practice getting changed with your child.

We will confirm PE days in September.



Forest School





Tapestry & Class Dojo



- We use tapestry to record WOW! moments in the school day such as excellent reading or writing, something the children have made or built or imagined or something they might like to share! We also record all our practical Maths learning on Tapestry as well for parents to see weekly!
- Parents receive 1-3 wow moments a week along with 1 maths observation.
- We use class dojo to award house points! These are celebrated in assemblies on Fridays and children are awarded mufti days and dojo certificates when they reach each milestone.





Promoting Positive Behaviour

- Our Golden promises are Be safe, Be ready and Be kind and respectful. They underpin all behaviours and are linked to our positive relationships and behaviour policy.
- Our Celebration Assembly every Friday celebrates children that have shown our school Values and Golden Promises as Star of the Week and Gold Awards.
- There are many other class rewards such as marbles in a jar, dojo points, proud cloud certificates, stickers, positive praise etc.



6/26/2020





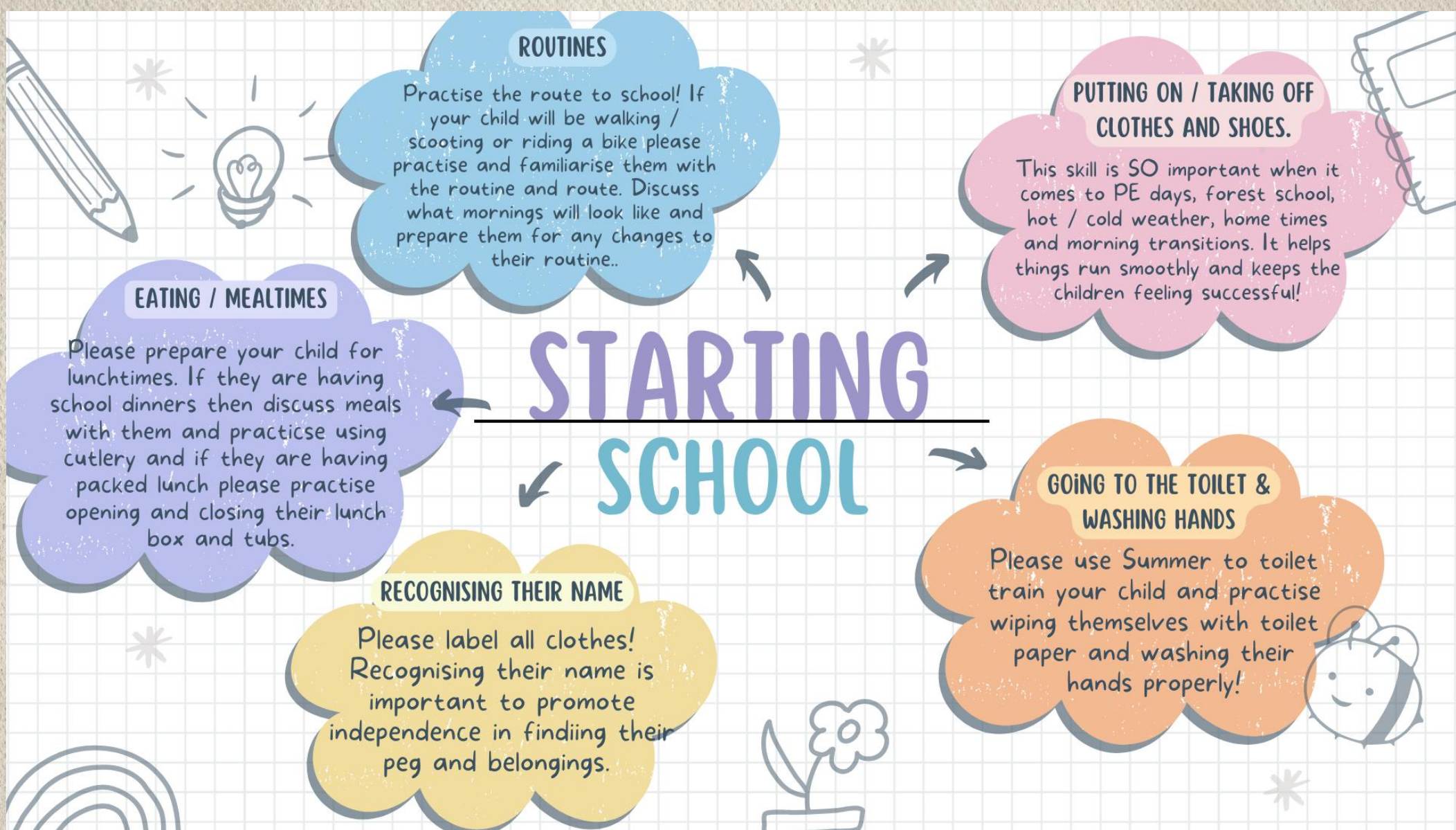
School Readiness

- Starting Infant School is an exciting new chapter in your child's life. We are aware of the importance of this big step, and are dedicated to helping children settle in quickly, build positive relationships and enjoy school life.
- At Walsh, we understand that it can feel daunting when your child starts 'big school', so we have compiled some helpful tips about the learning behaviours we foster in EYFS and some ideas to get your child off to a great start in developing these skills, these are in your welcome pack.

Getting Ready for School Checklist

I can...	I can...	I can...
recognise my name	☐ hold my pencil carefully	☐ put on my socks
write the first letter	☐ draw a face 	☐ find my shoes
copy my name	☐ colour in carefully	☐ put on my shoes
write my name 	☐ name the colours I use	☐ do up my shoes 
I can...	I can...	I can...
count from 1 to 5	☐ sing simple rhymes	☐ find my coat
recognise each number	☐ sing and clap to a song	☐ put my arms into my coat
place 1 to 5 in order	☐ tap a beat 	☐ do up a zip to the top
write 1 to 5 in order 1 2 3 4 5	☐ move to music	☐ do buttons 
I can...	I can...	I can...
eat with a knife and fork	☐ tidy away my toys	☐ say please when I ask
pour myself a drink	☐ clear away things I've used	☐ say thank you when I get
taste different foods	☐ put my clothes away	☐ ask to go to the toilet
wash my hands before and after meals 	☐ help at home 	☐ wait my turn to talk 
I can...	I can...	I can...
clean myself	☐ use the stairs hand rail	☐ cut along a line
wash my hands 	☐ hold hands on the street	☐ cut 'snips' into paper
dry my hands	☐ take turns when playing	☐ cut out a shape
go to the toilet when I need to	☐ share toys with a friend 	☐ cut out shapes to make a picture 





Not all children develop at the same pace.

If your child can't do all these things perfectly before they start school, don't panic, we always get to know them and start their learning where they are and they will get there in the end with your help and encouragement. Do let us know about any concerns and that way we will be ready to help.



Welcome to our Walsh Family



- PTFA
- Family events
- Phonics workshop date to be confirmed (October)
- Class Assemblies
- Library and reading helpers
- Open door policy
- Parent meetings – November and March



Attendance

- We continually focus on the importance of attendance and punctuality to ensure that your child has the best possible start in life.
- All holidays in term time are discouraged
- We will update you on your child's attendance every half term with a RAG rated letter of attendance. All absences below 90% is classed as Persistently Absent and we will work with you to help improve this.

Attendance during 1 year	Days lost	This equates to...
95% attendance	9 Days	nearly 2 weeks
90% attendance	19 days	nearly 4 weeks
85% attendance	29 days	nearly 6 week
80% attendance	38 days	nearly 8 weeks
75% attendance	48 days	nearly 10 weeks
70% attendance	57 days	nearly 11.5 weeks
65% attendance	67 days	nearly 13.5 weeks



To remember...

- Please label everything!
- Absence from school – always email or phone the office in the morning, or Report and Absence via the website.
- Book bags and water bottles– please bring into school every day and check book bag every evening.
- Jewellery – children are only allowed to wear small stud earrings and not for PE
- Newsletters- these are full of information and are sent weekly
- School dinners- we would encourage all children to have a school dinner and can help support them if they need help trying new foods.
- Any concerns or worries please speak to your class teacher at the gate or via class dojo so we can support you or speak to / email the office and they will pass your message to the class teacher.





Thank you for coming!

We are looking forward to the next part
of the journey.

