

**Westfield
Foundation Stage
Newsletter**



**All About
Me**



Autumn 1

Settling in

We hope your child is settling into their nurture group and class and making friends. We have been exploring the inside and outside areas and learning our new rules and routines. Please check that coats, shoes, uniform, PE kit, water bottles and lunch boxes are all clearly named.

PE

PE is on Thursday.
Please practise putting on and taking off sweatshirts and socks at home. This will help your child change for PE independently. Turning clothes the right way out is a bit tricky too. If your child wears earrings, please cover them with a plaster or remove them and leave them at home on these days.
We hope to do some outside activities on a Friday afternoon and it would be great if your child could bring wellies on this day.

Seesaw

Signing up to 'Seesaw' will give you instant access to lots of beautiful pictures and lots of activities your children will participate in at school. Important reminders of exciting school events such as dress up days will also be posted on 'Seesaw'. Please look out for our letter explaining how to join. This will be in your child's bag soon!

Activity Money

Please don't forget to pay your £15 activity money to your child's group leader for the whole year. We use this money to buy resources like bulbs, potting compost, play dough ingredients, sand and party refreshments. Thank you to those who have already done this. This really helps us to enrich the curriculum for the children.

Our topic

This half term the children will be talking about themselves and their likes and dislikes. We will be adapting the environment so that activities and areas cater for the children's interests, as well as following the themes 'All about me'.

For our 'All about me' topic we will be looking at different ways to draw, paint and create pictures of ourselves using a range of different medias. We shall also be discussing our lives and interests, and considering how these differ from each other and make us special.

Our other topics will include, dinosaurs, The Little Red Hen, Harvest Festival and Autumn.

Water bottles and bookbags

Please remember to send water bottles full every day. This must be water and not juice. Please can the children carry bottles in their hands rather than in book bags. Even if the bottle is in a plastic bag, water sometimes leaks out. We cannot afford to replace reading books if they get wet. We ask that children have rectangular book bags so they can be kept neatly in drawers rather than rucksacks. If your child is staying for packed lunch, please ensure they have a separate drink inside their packed lunch box.



Home activities

When our assessments are completed, your child will be given some letter sounds to learn. These will be written in their very own 'Green phonics book'. Please help them pronounce the letter sounds correctly and use the actions described in the front of the book. Making the correct letter sounds will help your child with reading and spelling. Please only work on the sounds given to you. These will be clearly dated.

Your child will also soon bring home an orange 'Special Book'. These are given out on a Friday for your child to complete over the weekend and return the following Wednesday. This is for them to record something they have done over the weekend to share with the group during circle time. The children love this chance to talk about special times outside of school.

Reading books

Your child will soon be given a reading book with no words. These are pre-reading books and teach children how a book works. Please encourage your child to talk about the pictures and retell the story in their own words. Ask them questions about the pictures and let your child imagine what the characters might say and how they might feel.

Children who are confident with letter sounds will be taught how to blend sounds together to make two and three letter words. They will then be given books with simple sentences.

If children read at least 3 times each week, they will be rewarded with a certificate at the end of each half term. This is one of the best ways to support your child in making progress in their reading.