



FOUNDATION STAGE ONE NEWSLETTER

OWLS

Welcome to our new Owls



Welcome to Foundation Stage one (FS1)

We know that the last few months have been strange. In September we are welcoming back children who returned for a short time and children who are returning after a long time off.

We will also be welcoming a group of new starters...that's your child!

We would like to go through the important things that you need to know. Our school website has lots of helpful information about everything too: <http://www.brinsley.notts.sch.uk/>

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 2nd September 2020 - 3.30pm to 4.30pm - New starter parent/carer meeting
(see below for information)

The meeting will hopefully be held on the FS1 classroom playground and at the present time we are hoping that you can bring your child with you if you are able to. We would ask that if possible only one adult attends and siblings are not brought. We understand that this may not be possible, and if this is a problem please let us know. We may be able to meet with you at another time before Monday 7th September. (This Guidance may change between now and then.)

Please come to the FS1 door between the times above.

Monday 7th September 2020 - 8.30am New starters beginning

Morning session children attend from 8.30am to 11.30am. This is for those children entitled to 15 hours provision.

All day children attend from 8.30am to 3.20pm. This is for those eligible for the 30 hour provision.

These times may change slightly with updated guidance. We are unable to let you enter the classroom with your child due to restrictions. We will keep you up to date with this on Dojo.

Children are dropped off through the gate near the staff car park, follow the path around and FS1 is the first set on red doors. There is a map attached if you are unsure. Please be prompt collecting your child. Please also ensure that you keep an eye out over the summer for updates to these timings and guidance, which is changing regularly due to the current circumstances. We would like to make sure that we can contact you easily and Class Dojo is a great way to do this. (See below for information)

We would like to ensure that children are kept safe at all times and remind you not to walk across the staff car park, but to use the path along the fence. Please make sure that your children do not climb on the fencing of our neighbours and that they stay within the school perimeter at all times. At the end of a session/day, if you need to access the main playground please use the gate next to the office. This will be left open for a short time before and after school. We will aim to open the doors at 3.10pm, so that you have time to make your way around to pick up siblings. We will also, as always, keep children with us until you have collected them after 3.20pm.

Staffing

The staff in the classroom with your child are: Mrs Williams and Mrs Henderson as the class teachers and Mrs Meakin as the class teaching assistant. Mrs Henderson will teach all day on a Monday and on a Tuesday morning for Mrs Williams' PPA (planning, preparation and assessment). Mrs Williams will teach on Tuesday afternoons and all day Wednesday to Friday. We are also supported by a supervisor across lunch to provide cover and support for those children accessing the 30 hours provision.

If you are not sure who is who, please feel free to ask and we can introduce ourselves.

30 hour children

If your child is eligible for 30 hours provision they will stay all day from September 7th unless you have let us know otherwise. We are happy to work with you if you feel that in the first week doing whole days will be a bit much and we can look at a few half days instead. Please let us know. We will let you know if there is any change to this with current Covid-19 guidance. Children will have their lunch in the classroom and then either watch something on the whiteboard or go outside to play from 11.30am to 12.20pm. If you wish to order a school dinner this is done through Teachers to Parents (please contact the school office for more information) otherwise please send your child with a packed lunch. We have no afternoon children arriving into school for an afternoon session. This means that the 30 hour children will be joining FS2 from approximately 1pm to 3pm each day, **with Mrs Williams or Mrs Henderson**. We will be working together and the children will continue to have access to the Early years curriculum, learning through play and working in small groups with the staff. We will use both rooms where appropriate and the outside areas. At the end of the day we will continue to let the children go from the FS1 classroom as normal.

Our Autumn term 1 topic



Do you want to be friends?

In the first half term, our topic is called, 'Do you want to be friends?' We are sharing topic questions with FS2, however the way we deliver, plan and experience the unit will be different. We will talk about playing and how to be kind to others, thinking about their feelings. We will learn about friendships and the best ways of working together as a team. Whilst exploring this topic we are looking forward to learning more about each other and the things that we have in common and what things make us different. We will send home a newsletter about our topics each half term and these are also on our class web page. <http://www.brinsley.notts.sch.uk/brinsley-primary-school-foundation-unit-1/>

Things to tell us

Please let us know if your child has an allergy, medical need or dietary requirement that we need to know about. We need to know if they are not yet potty trained and if they need help with wiping, so that we can get you to complete an intimate care form.

Clothing



The children will have outdoor learning every day. Please ensure that they have appropriate clothing with them. If possible, please provide your child with a pair of wellies that can be kept in school. Please make sure they are clearly labelled with your child's full name. We will always try to give you notice if we are going to go on the field.

Spare clothes in a rucksack are essential as the children do get wet playing in the water tray and playing outside on our black rubber playground. Light coloured coats and clothing are not advised! Spare clothes, school uniform and coats **MUST** be labelled with your child's name! If your child is sent home in our spare clothes, please return them once washed.



Physical Education

For the 1st half term, Next Level Sports will take the 30 hour children for PE each **Monday afternoon** for a short session, and all of FS1 each **Thursday morning** for another session. Children do not need a PE kit. Please remember that earrings and jewellery **MUST** be removed. If your child has newly pierced ears, please let us know. You will need to complete a form.

Arrival

Your child has a picture card with their name written on it. This picture matches their peg picture. The cards are spread out in the table each morning and your child will be asked to find their card and post it into the box. We will email you a photograph of their card, so that they recognise it.

Library Books



Each week your child will have the opportunity to choose a book to bring home. This book will be one they have chosen that interests or excites them. Please take time to share the book with your child, and remember to return it the following Monday, just drop it in the green box. A new one will not be given if it is not returned. We will also send home a reading diary, so that you can write in it when you have shared the book with your child. Please also return this diary each week.

Outstanding Owl of the Week and Star charts



Each week we choose one child from the class to be our 'Outstanding Owls'. Children will receive a certificate and a prize. Each class in school has a bird name and these certificates are called the 'Beak of the week'. Alongside this certificate, children also collect stars for their star chart. They will be given a certificate and a small prize once they have collected 20 stars and for every 20 after that.

Observations

We use the early years outcomes to plan and assess against. Children are assessed when they in the first 4 weeks when they begin and at the end of each term and we use Evidence Me to record observations. You will be asked to complete a photograph permission form so that photographs can be used for this. We then send home a report each term including these photographs and observations.



Things to remember:



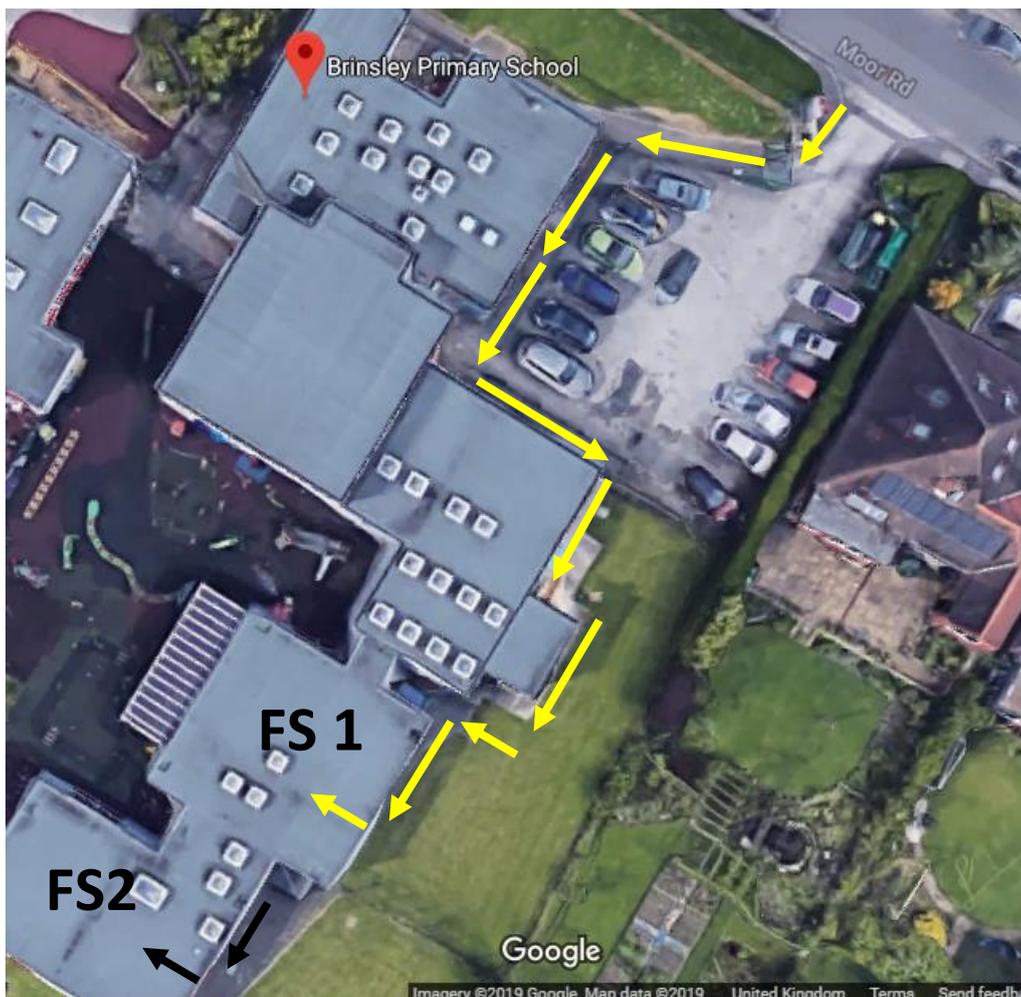
- Our class is Foundation Stage 1 (FS1) and our bird name is 'Owls'.
- Write your child's full name in all of their clothing. This helps match up each child's things. The following name labels are great and we would personally recommend the stickers. Please use the code: 27204 <https://www.mynametags.com>
- Please dress your child in appropriate clothing for the weather. We have play outdoors everyday and if it is raining, they will need a coat and wellies. 
- Please send your child with a bag containing spare clothes and if needed wipes. At this age they still have toilet accidents. Please inform us if your child is still in pull-ups and also if your child needs help with intimate care such as wiping. You will be required to complete an intimate care form, which can be emailed to you.
- Bring a named drink bottle - no fizzy drinks please.
- No snack will be necessary - children are all entitled to a free carton of milk and a free piece of fruit. The kitchen do offer a hot snack, but we will let you know if this is restarting in September.
- We discourage bringing toys from home and soothers. 
- We will send home a library book each Monday along with their reading diary. Please ensure that this returned each Monday.
- Let us know if your child will not be in or is ill on 01773 783898.
- Let us know if someone else will collect your child. If you have not let us know, and someone different comes to collect, we will ask them for your personal password that you gave when your child started.
- Please contact us on Class Dojo if there is anything you wanted to ask or inform us about. (A reminder email has been sent if you have not yet joined us on Dojo. Check Junk mail.)
- Please read the whole school guidance from Mr Osprey:
<http://brinsley.notts.sch.uk/resources/PID124-2020-07-22/200722%20September%20Plan%20BPS.pdf>

We are sorry that we have been unable to offer your child a normal visit to school to meet us, but we hope that come September things will settle down. We understand that you may be anxious and we will do what we can to ease your child's transition. Please remember on the first day we have found that even if they are upset it can be better to drop them off and we will ring you and let you know how they are doing. Please don't hesitate to contact us and we can answer any questions you may have.

The Foundation 1 team



FS 1 entrance



ClassDojo

Welcome to Class Dojo! We will be using this app for posting reminders and information about the things that we are doing and the things that are going on. Please find attached your individual code to sign up, so that we can keep in touch. We have sent a personal invite view email.

You will see a Class Story, and only the teachers of our class, and the parents connected to that class can see the Class Story - it cannot be shown publicly. Please understand that you are able to comment on our Class Story, however we will not necessarily be replying to comments.

Finally, Class Dojo does have a messaging feature. We may from time to time message you, however again, if you message us you may not always get a reply on Dojo. We are sure that you understand we will not read messages outside of school hours.

Let us know if you have any problems or questions.