



September 2021

Newsletter

Dear Parents & Carers,

We have had a successful start to the new academic year. Our Rainbows children have settled in well and our children in Year One and Year Two have transitioned into their new classes. The children are full of smiles and ready for new learning. Thank you to everyone for your support and encouragement, especially as we navigate the next stage of teaching during the Covid-19 Pandemic. Please remember, if you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to talk to a member of staff.

Best Regards,
Mrs H. Holmes

The Senior Leadership Team

We thought it would be useful to clarify who is in our Senior Leadership Team and what their roles are.

Hayley Holmes	Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead.
Paula Coplin	Deputy Headteacher, Deputy Safeguarding Lead and designated teacher for looked after and adopted children.
Ashley Girt	Assistant Headteacher, Line Manager for Overdale Preschool and Foundation Stage 2 (Rainbows) and Deputy Safeguarding Lead.
Shona Scrimgeour	Assistant Headteacher, Line Manager for Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) and Deputy Safeguarding Lead.
Brogan Francis	Interim Assistant Head Teacher and Line Manager for Key Stage 1 whilst Miss Scrimgeour is on maternity leave.
Helena Harding	SENCo

Please remember that school starts at 9:05am. A member of the Senior Leadership Team will ring the bell each morning to signal the start of the day.

Communication

Please contact us if you have any news to share or wish to raise a concern. Your child's class teacher should be your first port of call. Please try to speak to staff at the end of the day as the beginning of the day is often very busy. If it is urgent, please speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team that morning and they will be able to pass a message on. If you need support with an ongoing issue or would like to bring a matter to the attention of the Senior Leadership Team, please email support@overdale-inf.leicester.sch.uk.

Parents may also contact Reception. If you wish to do this, please use reception@overdale-inf.leicester.sch.uk. Please do not attempt to contact staff through social media or personal email addresses. All communication from school will be electronic. The majority of information will be sent via email from ParentPay. Please check your emails regularly and ensure that we have an up-to-date email address.

We have a school Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/OverdaleInfantSchool> as does our Parent Association (Overdale PA) <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100012029349505>. We also have a school Twitter page. Some reminders will be posted on our Facebook and Twitter pages. Please like our pages and keep an eye out for information. Comments on the social media pages are not monitored regularly so please contact the school directly to address any queries.

We try to share dates and events in a timely fashion that allows you to make the necessary arrangements if you are working. Key dates for the school year can be found on our school website. Your child will still be asked to bring letters / leaflets home and will need to bring their book bag to school each day. Please check their book bags regularly.

Reminders

School Timings

School starts at 9:05am. Classroom doors will open when the bell rings and children will be able to enter the classroom. The gates will close at 9:10. Any children arriving after this time will need to enter school via Reception and will be marked as late.

Persistent lateness is a serious concern and will affect your child's education. If children are persistently late, you will be contacted by a member of SLT to discuss the reasons for this.

At the end of the day, children in Reception will finish school at 3:15pm and children in Years 1 and 2 will finish at 3:20pm. Once children have been collected, please leave the site as soon as possible, all families should have left the site by 3:30. We have after school clubs that take place outside and our insurance does not cover us after 3:30.

Medication

Please bring any medication in a named plastic bag. Medication must be in the box provided and have a pharmacy label with the child's name on and recommended dosage. A medical form will need to be completed before staff are able to administer medicine. Please make sure the medicine is in date and you have made a note of the expiry date. Please contact Reception via phone or email if you require a form.

Birthday Sweets

This term, we will be reviewing our policy on birthday sweets and will be collecting your views before making any changes. In the meantime, please can we ask that children only bring in sweets for their birthday and not for other celebrations. Please make sure all sweets sent in are nut free and if possible, have a gelatine-free option. There are 30 children in each class.

ParentPay

Please can we ask parents to log in to ParentPay to create an account. We use this for school communications ie letters, newsletters and reminder as well payment for trips etc. If you need login details please contact reception.

School Lunches

We are a nut free school. Please make sure packed lunches and birthday sweets are nut free. If your child has a school dinner, the menu will be displayed in classroom windows and can also be found on our website.

COVID-



If your child has been in contact with someone who has tested positive for Coronavirus, Public Health England advise that they should get a PCR test. If your child has received a negative PCR test, a follow up test should be taken 4 - 5 days after the initial PCR test. This can be a PCR or a Lateral Flow test. Your child will not need to isolate while waiting for the results of the PCR test.

If your child is unwell for any reason, particularly with cold like symptoms, please take a Lateral Flow test before coming to school or book a PCR test.

Thank you for your support with this. Testing regularly can help to protect all staff, parents and children, particularly those who are vulnerable.

Sickness

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea, please ensure that they stay off school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for 48 hours as advised by the NHS.

Dates for your diary

Monday 11 th October	Harvest Festival event - food bank collection*
Tuesday 12 th October	Parents Evening*
Thursday 14 th October	Parents Evening*
Friday 15 th October	School closes for half term

*More information to follow