



Tudor Grange Primary Academy

Meon Vale

Monday 12th September

Dear Parents/Carers,

On behalf of the Hazel Reception team, we would like to personally welcome you to TGPA Meon Vale and hope you and your child are looking forward to the exciting academic year ahead.

EYFS Team

The Reception team consists of Mr Crockett, the EYFS lead who teaches on a Thursday and Friday; Miss Wood who teaches on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Johnson who is our class teaching assistant. We are also very fortunate to have Miss Zubek who is a student teacher and will be supporting in Hazel.

Communication

In order for you to understand and be part of your child's education we have attached a topic web for this half term to give you an outline of the curriculum we will be following. We will send home a topic web and curriculum letter at the beginning of each half term to introduce our new topic and inform you of any key events or dates.

The main focus of this term is to help your child feel comfortable and settled in their new surroundings, supported by a variety of play-based and small focused group activities in the various areas of learning which make up the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum. Over the coming weeks we will begin our teaching of phonics and early reading using the Little Wandle Phonics scheme. We will give you details of how to support your child with their Literacy learning and homework in due course, including parent work shops. We will send book bags home with reading texts and phonics homework each week on a **THURSDAY**. Please ensure they are returned by **MONDAY** of the following week.

To support the topic of '**Superhero Me**', please can you **send in one 6x4 photograph of your child with their immediate family or carers**. This will be used to stimulate discussion during circle time and to support our work on families. This photograph may be stuck into your child's learning book so please send a copy that you are happy not to have returned in its original form. Please put your child's name on the back of the photograph and hand it to the teacher or place it in your child's book bag and let the teacher know on the day you have sent it with your child.

Each month, we will be holding a **parent book look**, where we will invite parents and carers into school to view their child's learning journey. This is an informal, but important opportunity for yourselves to view all of the amazing learning that has been happening and to contribute your ideas. More details will follow closer to the time.

We will soon be sending home information about which house (Hall, Hathaway, Shakespeare or Arden) your child has been placed into and this will remain for the duration of their time at Meon Vale. We will also be launching an **exciting new app called Number Bots**, which will support your child's understanding, recall and fluency in mental addition and subtraction, so that they move from counting to calculating. More details and parent workshops on this will follow.

Assessment

In the forthcoming weeks we will be undertaking a range of formal assessments, observations and interactions to develop our understanding of your child's development. We will be participating in the statutory Reception Baseline Assessment which is an interactive and practical



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assessment that will look at your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills. There is no pass or fail with this assessment, every school takes part and the main purpose is to create a starting point to measure the progress schools make with their pupils.

Reminders...

Please can we take the opportunity to give a gentle reminder that children must bring a named bottle which contains ONLY water and not juice or squash. This is school policy and non-negotiable.

All children in Reception are entitled to a free school meal. Please ensure you select the options for your child using MCAS no later than the Thursday of the week before.

Please also ensure they bring their bookbag and a waterproof jacket daily.

PE kits can be left at school and we will send these home each half term. Our PE day for this term will be **Friday**.

There is a welly rack outside our classroom door where you can put named wellies so we can go outside in all weathers.

Please ensure that **ALL** items of clothing is named, as we are encouraging children to be as independent as possible and to responsible for their own items.

If someone different to the child's parent or guardian is collecting your child from school, please notify either the office or class teachers. We will be keeping a list of collection arrangements in our classroom, and we can add any permanent specific day arrangements to this list. If we have not been notified then your child will not be handed to the person collecting, even if it is someone we recognise or another parent.

Please, please, please...

We are currently developing our outside area and are looking for resources such as pallets, pots and pans, guttering, wood, logs and dressing up clothes (4 years +). If you can help the team out with any of these, please let us know. Thank you!

Finally, we appreciate the start of school is both an exciting and daunting time for both parents and children. However, the children have all had a fantastic first week at school and we are looking forward to getting to know you all over the coming weeks. In the meantime, if you have any further questions then please do not hesitate to contact Miss Wood or myself.

Kind Regards

Mr Crockett - Tudor Grange Primary Academy, Meon Vale – EYFS Lead and Class Teacher

Miss Wood - Tudor Grange Primary Academy, Meon Vale – Class Teacher and Maths Lead

Mrs Johnson - Tudor Grange Primary Academy, Meon Vale – Teaching Assistant

Miss Zubek - Tudor Grange Primary Academy, Meon Vale – Student Teacher