



## Radley CE Primary School & Foundation Stage Unit

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Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful to welcome all the children back to school at the start of this term. We have been delighted with their positive attitude and enthusiasm for learning. The children have quickly settled back into school routines and adapted well to the new changes this term.

Mr Wolstenholme will be teaching Isis Class on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and Mrs Quigley will be teaching on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Holt will also be supporting the children in class.

Usually we would, in July, have held a “welcome to Isis Class” meeting for parents of children starting Year 3. As this was not possible due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are including in this letter the information that we would have shared at a welcome meeting:

### Things to bring to school

Thank you for your punctuality in bringing your child to school by 8:50 and collecting them at 3:05 – this has really helped us to maintain the staggered starts and finish times for the different class bubbles.

Due to the current Covid situation, we request that children do not bring things from home into school unless they are really necessary. However, there are a few items that we ask children to have with them.

Please could all children bring a named **water bottle** into school each day. Children should take this home at the end of the day for it to be refilled. In Isis and Thames classes, we do not routinely pour out drinks for children at break time, but water bottles are kept in class so that they can be accessed at points throughout the day.

We advise children to bring a **healthy snack** to eat during break time. Isis class now eat their lunch at 12:30 (to enable staggered use of the hall) so it is a slightly longer time to last until lunch this year! Fruit, vegetables, breadsticks or crackers are all fine, but no cereal bars or crisps please, due to their high sugar, fat and/or salt content. Fruit and milk can also be purchased through school.

Children need a pair of **trainers** in school every day, to wear at break times as well as for exercise and PE lessons. We are using the field as much as possible at break times, and also doing the “Daily Mile”, which involves the class walking or running around the school field for 15 minutes each day. We find that the Daily Mile improves children’s focus in lessons, helps to develop positive relationships both amongst children and between children and adults, and develops physical fitness.

PE lessons will usually be on a Wednesday (Mr Piper from Ignite Sports will continue to run our Wednesday PE session). Please could children have their **PE kit** in school every day in case of

timetable changes. PE lessons usually take place outside so a pair of tracksuit trousers rather than shorts is most suitable as we move into the winter.

Children have been given a yellow **reading diary** for both parents and teachers to record their child's reading: this should be brought to school each day.

### Reading

Regular reading helps your child to progress with their learning in so many areas of the curriculum. As well as reading the book that they bring home from school, children benefit from reading any other books that interest them, as well as from listening to stories that are read to them.

We will listen to children reading during group sessions and individually. Children will bring home a stage reading book (these stages match and follow on from the coloured book bands that children were used to in Cherwell class) or, once they have progressed through the stages, a book from the class library. Children who are reading the stage books also choose a book from the class library to keep in their drawer at school.

### Homework and spellings

As it has been several months since the children were in school full time, we expect the first few weeks to be a time of adjusting. To help children with this transition back to school, we will be gradually reintroducing homework and spellings over the next few weeks, increasing the amount that we set over the coming months. We will be back in contact with you to let you know more about spellings and homework, what will be expected and how you can support your child.

### Assemblies and celebrations

While we are not currently able to have whole-school assemblies, we are having class assemblies and will also be setting aside regular time in class for discussion, reflection and focus on a Christian value (which, this term, is Relationships). Every Friday we will have a short Celebration Assembly within the class, in place of the whole-school celebration assembly that the children have been used to. During this assembly, we will award a Star of the Week and merit certificates, and review our progress towards filling the school marble jar.

### Curriculum plans

We have started the year with a whole-school focus on the book *Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth* by Oliver Jeffers. Children have been doing various activities based on the book, enabling them to feel a sense of community across the school, to reflect on the last few months and look forward to the future in a positive way.

The children will be studying the following topics across the curriculum this term:

English	<i>Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth</i> by Oliver Jeffers Story writing and poetry based on <i>The Pebble In My Pocket: A History of Our Earth</i> by Meredith Hooper Non-chronological reports Explanations
Maths	Place value Addition and subtraction Length, perimeter and area
Science	Rocks States of matter
Computing	Audio editing Computer systems and networks: internet research

History/ Geography	Mountains
DT/ Art	Artwork linked to <i>Here We Are</i> Mountain art
PE	Ignite Sports
RE	How special is the relationship that Jewish people have with God? What is the most significant part of the Nativity story for Christians?
Music	Violin lesson
Languages	Spanish
PSHE	Jigsaw scheme: Being Me in My World

We look forward to speaking with you at Parents' Evening in a few weeks. In the meantime, please do come and speak to us if you have any further questions.

Thank you for all your support with your child's learning.

Mark Wolstenholme and Anne Quigley  
Isis Class Teachers