



Lickey Hills Primary School & Nursery

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Dear Parents/Carers of children in Reception,

We are all very proud of how well the children are coming in to school now. They really are very settled and come in beautifully in the morning!

We would now like to ask you to go to the playground at the front of the EYFS building when you arrive in the morning. This is the playground with the wooden stage at the top of it, where Miss Cooke's class come out after school. We have noticed that the children are having a lot of fun on the grassy bank in the mornings but as the weather gets colder and wetter this grass slope area may become muddy and slippery. Therefore, it would be safer for adults to wait with their children on the playground, where they can run around before the doors open. Also, every morning this is where you will find a red plastic box marked 'New Books Please'. At 8:40 a whistle will be blown and the cloakroom doors will open to allow the children to enter.

From Monday 26th September we are kindly requesting that you say goodbye to your child at the cloakroom door and allow them to come in by themselves, find their peg and join their friends on the carpet ready for registration and phonics. Reading books will be coming home too and we ask that your child reads each book twice to you before being returned. You can write a comment in their reading record each time they read or simply initial to say they have done it. Once you have completed the 2 reads please tuck the book back inside their reading record and place it in the red box on the playground. At first you may need to remind your child that their book needs changing and help them place it there.

The reading record acts as a home school communication record and we will write in it when your child has read, sometimes with a target for them to work on and sometimes just an initial to say who they have read to. Initially we will read on a 1:1 basis so that each child has a focused read with an adult. This has proved very successful the last couple of years. We will work our way through the class lists at the beginning of each week, making sure that every child has a supported read, and issue them with a book which will then come home. The first book of the week will follow our Oxford Reading Scheme and the next one(s) will be from other schemes we use that support wider reading. The children will have a chance to choose this literacy link book from a selection of books at their Oxford Reading Scheme level. Some early books have just pictures as an introduction to discussing characters and stories. We have linked the book selection to your child's baseline assessments to help us find the right level. Whether there are words or just pictures you can ask your child about what is happening in the story. Can they guess what might happen next? Ask them to re-tell the story to you. Can they tell you who the characters in the story are?

Finally, a reminder that Friday 29th September is our family Friday afternoon which starts at 2:30. Please arrive via the High House drive entrance and not via the main school office so EYFS staff can let you straight in. You'll be asked to sign in, pop a 'Visitor' sticker on and then you can come in and play! We may also allow you to take your child home a little earlier with you at 3pm if you've all done a good job at tidy up time!

EYFS staff would also like to thank you for a wonderful and supportive start to the year.

Kind regards,

H. Williams and the EYFS Team
Deputy Head Teacher and EYFS Lead

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Headteacher Miss Amanda Salisbury, B.Ed(Hons), NPQH



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