



EYFS

We all had a fantastic term last term in Acorns, and we are so proud of how much progress the children have made. We are really looking forward to another brilliant term full of lots of learning and fun. As always, if you have any questions about your child's time at school, please do not hesitate to talk to us. Members of the Early Years staff team will be available to talk to you at the end of the school day.

To support our learning, we will be visiting Bournemouth! This will help us when we are learning about the seaside in Geography and in Art & Design.

As we start to prepare for the transition to Year 1, please ensure you leave the children at the top gate to walk in independently. A member of staff is always there, should you need to pass on a message to us. As ever, we are always available to a quick chat at the end of the day. Alternatively, please contact the school office to make an appointment.

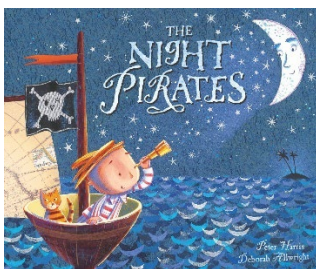
Many thanks for your support
Mrs Neale & Acorns Team

Curriculum Information

Literacy

This term in English, we will be continuing to focus on the use of our sounds, learnt in our phonics sessions. We will also be practicing our finger spaces, capital letters and full stops.

One of the texts we will be using is *The Night Pirates*. We will use it to consolidate our sentence writing.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZSHC1t1Nz0>

Mathematics

In maths this term we are going to be learning all about number facts within 20. We will be comparing numbers, to see which one is the greatest – or if they're the same! **To support this at home, you could compare numbers of toys or how many pieces of broccoli you have at dinner!**

We will also be learning about 2D and 3D shapes and their properties. **At home, why don't you try going on a shape hunt?**

Finally, we will be learning about the values of coins. **In a world where many of us don't use cash, please use every opportunity to support your child's learning of these coins.**



Communication and Language

One of the key areas of the Early Years curriculum is Communication and Language. In order to move towards achieving our Early Learning Goals, we will be listening to stories so that we can talk about them, ask questions and have back and forth conversations with our friends.

We will also be introducing new words to our learning areas, in order to develop our use of higher level vocabulary.

To support this at home, please continue to have meaningful conversations with your children about their day. You could also engage in lots of days out and walks to enable your child to learn specific vocabulary.



Expressive Art and Design

Our final term in Early Years will explore the use of materials and using tools and techniques safely. We will continue to explore with colour, design, texture, form and function. We look forward to the children sharing their creations with us and explaining the process to the class.

Role play will continue to be a part of our structured busy learning, to enable the children to take on the personas of characters.

In order to support this strand at home, continue to sing well-known nursery rhymes and songs.

Understanding the World

We will be talking about past and present, the lives of people around us and understanding the past through books and storytelling.

We will be learning about some similarities and differences between religious and cultural communities in the UK, and talking about our own experiences.

In addition, we will explain some of the similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries.

Physical Development

In the Summer term, we will continue to practice our gross and fine motor skills. The children will learn to negotiate space and obstacles safely and demonstrate strength, balance and coordination.

The children will practice holding a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing. The children will also practice using a range of small tools, including scissors, paintbrushes and cutlery.



In order to practice at home, please continue to reinforce the correct use of cutlery when eating breakfast and dinner.

PSED (Personal, Social & Emotional Development)

Finally, the children will be learning all about how to become more independent and learn all about themselves.

As they move towards their Early Learning Goals, the children will be developing their own feelings and those of others and begin to regulate their behaviour. They will become more confident to try new activities and perseverance in the face of challenge.

Things you can practice at home are: washing hands, getting dressed, choosing healthy foods and taking turns with others in games and conversations.

Home Learning

At Meadow Park Academy, we believe that home learning can provide valuable opportunities to consolidate and practice learning.

We expect all children in EYFS to complete the following weekly:

Reading

The children will be sent home with a reading book matching their phonological knowledge so they can continue to practice their learning at home. They are expected to read 5 times per week.

Phonics

As a school, we follow Read Write Inc phonics. Please continue to watch the Ruth Miskin videos to support your child's learning at home.

<https://www.ruthmiskin.com/parentsandcarers/>



If you are struggling to access any of this homework, please speak to your child's class teacher about alternative arrangements.



Other information

School Uniform

All children should come to school in the correct school uniform, which is:

- Meadow Park sweatshirt
- Plain white polo shirt
- Plain grey or white socks
- Grey trousers
- Grey skirt
- Black, sensible shoes (no heels)



PE Kit

Children may come to school wearing their PE kits on their PE days. Our PE day is:

Tuesday

Our PE uniform is:

- Meadow Park black shorts
- Meadow Park emerald green T shirt
- Plimsolls, trainers or bare feet (for indoor PE)
- Trainers with good grip and support for outside sport (different to indoor trainers)
- Plain grey or black tracksuit bottoms and top (optional)
- Hairband to tie long hair back

Any issues?

In the first instance, please speak with the class teacher at the end of the day. If you are unable to be there on collection, please contact the school office to arrange a time to meet with the teacher.

If you are still unsatisfied, please arrange a meeting with the phase leader.

Acorns, Cherry, Willow, Maple – **Ms Pack**

Beech, Sycamore, Elm, Chestnut, Ash, Holly, Hazel, Oak – **Ms Geary**

If after that meeting, you continue to be unhappy with the resolution, please contact the school office to make an appointment with **Ms Holehouse, Ms Voisey or Ms Drysdale**.

If you require specific support regarding a child with SEN, please arrange a meeting with **Ms Mughal**.

Lunchtime

Our delicious lunches are provided by Educatering Solutions.



Lunches must be ordered by **midnight on Tuesday**, to ensure that your child has lunches for the **following** week. As the lunches are cooked to order, there are usually no spare lunches.

You can place your lunch orders through MCAS.



Snacks and Water Bottles

Please make sure your child has a clearly labelled water bottle in school, so that they can stay hydrated.

We also welcome the children to bring in a healthy, nut free snack to enjoy at playtime.



Key Dates for your diary

- **Tuesday 14th April 2026 – Children return to school & clubs begin**
- Tuesday 14th April 2026 – Acorns to Rushall Farm
- Tuesday 21st April 2026 – Y3 @ Baylab
- Wednesday 22nd April 2026 – Earth Day
- Wednesday 22nd April 2026 – Y3 @ Baylab, Y2 Winchester Science Museum
- Monday 27th April 2026 – Y3 extended day at Ufton Court
- Thursday 20th April 2026 – Y5 Sulham Estate
- **Monday 4th May 2026 – Friday 8th May 2026 – No clubs**
- **Monday 4th May 2026 – Bank Holiday – School closed**
- **Thursday 7th May 2026 – Polling Day – School closed to R, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5**
- Monday 11th May 2026 – Thursday 14th May 2026 – Y6 SATs week
- Monday 18th May 2026 – Chestnut to Newbury Canal and River Trust
- Tuesday 19th May 2026 – Elm to Newbury Canal and River Trust
- Friday 22nd May 2026 – Clubs end & May half term holiday (3:15 finish)
- **Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May 2026 – May half term – school closed**
- Monday 1st June 2026 – Back to school and clubs begin
- Monday 1st June 2026 – Friday 12th June 2026 – Y4 multiplication check
- Wednesday 3rd June 2026 – Y6 to Reading Museum
- Monday 8th June 2026 – Class photos
- Wednesday 10th June 2026 – Year 4 – Englefield Estate
- Monday 8th June 2026 – Friday 12th June 2026 – Y1 phonics screening check
- Wednesday 17th June 2026 – Y6 to Milestones Museum
- Thursday 18th July 2026 – Year 1 trip to Beale Park
- Wednesday 24th June 2026 – Acorns to Oceanarium & Bournemouth Beach
- Monday 6th July 2026 – Friday 10th July 2026 – Sports Week
- Thursday 9th July 2026 – Reports home
- Friday 10th July 2026 – Sports Day
- Friday 10th July 2026 – Clubs end
- Monday 13th July 2026 – Transition Day
- Tuesday 14th & Wednesday 15th July 2026 – Y5 & Y6 leavers production
- Friday 17th July 2026 – Y6 Leavers Assembly – 9am
- **Friday 17th July 2026 – End of term – 1:30pm finish**
- **Wednesday 2nd September 2026 – Children return for 2026/27**

Packed Lunches

Lunchbox Builder for Kids

PICK ONE ITEM FROM EACH CATEGORY

MIX & MATCH EACH DAY!

Starchy Carbohydrate



Protein



Vegetables



Fruit



Dairy or fortified alternative

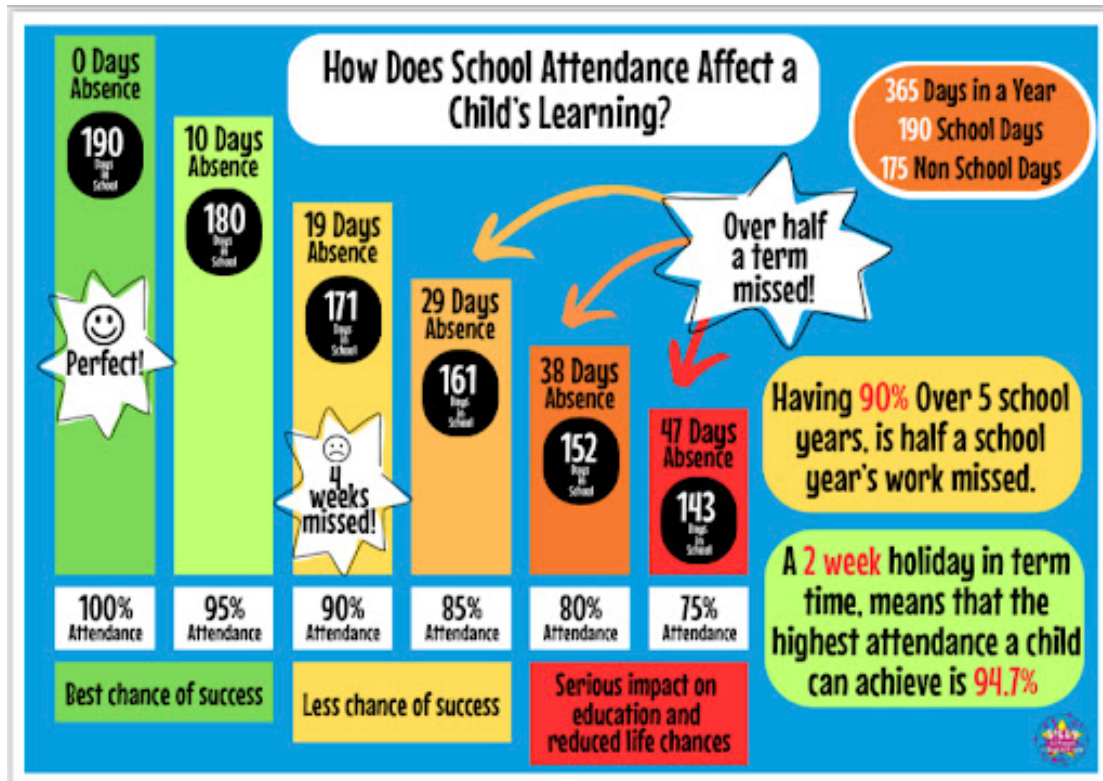


Don't forget a drink!



Laura
Matthews
Nutrition

Attendance



Authorised Absence	Explanation	Unauthorised Absence	Explanation
Illness	When a child is too unwell to attend and parents inform the school.	Family holidays during term time	Term-time holidays are not permitted unless exceptional circumstances are approved.
Medical or dental appointments	When appointments cannot be arranged outside school hours and medical proof has been provided and accepted by the school.	Late arrival without valid reason	Arriving after registration closes without explanation.
Religious observance	Days set aside by the family's religious community.	Keeping child off for birthdays or special outings	These are not considered valid reasons for absence.
Approved exceptional circumstances	E.g., a close family funeral.	Parent or carer illness (non-emergency)	Unless the situation places the child at risk if they attend.
Participation in approved educational activities	e.g., school visits, exams, sporting events.	Unexplained absence	No reason provided or the school does not accept the reason.
Traveller family commitments (in certain contexts)	When absence fits within recognised travelling patterns.	Overleeping or poor morning routine	Not considered a legitimate reason for missing school.
Authorised part-time timetable (temporary)	When agreed with SEND or medical teams.	Avoiding school due to minor complaints	Mild cold, tiredness, or refusing to come in without valid cause.



Term Dates 2026/27



Terms & Holidays – 2026/2027

Autumn – Term 1	
<i>Staff Development Day</i>	<i>Tuesday 1st September 2026</i>
Start of Term – Children in School	Wednesday 2 nd September 2026
Last day of Term	Friday 16 th October 2026
Term Break - Holiday	Monday 19 th October – Friday 30 th October 2026
Autumn – Term 2	
Start of Term – Children in School	Monday 2 nd November 2026
Last day of Term	Friday 18 th December 2026
Term Break - Holiday	Monday 21 st December – Friday 2 nd January 2027
Spring – Term 3	
<i>Staff Development Day</i>	<i>Monday 4th January 2027</i>
Start of Term – Children in School	Tuesday, 5 th January 2027
Last day of Term	Friday, 12 th February 2027
Term Break – Holiday	Monday 15 th February - Friday 19 th February 2027
Spring – Term 4	
Start of Term – Children in School	Monday, 22 nd February 2027
Last day of Term	Thursday, 25 th March 2027
Term Break – Holiday	Friday 26 th March – Friday 9 th April 2027
Summer – Term 5	
Start of Term – Children in School	Monday 12 th April 2027
Last day of Term	Friday, 28 th May 2027
<i>Early May Bank Holiday</i>	<i>Monday 3rd May 2027</i>
Term Break – Holiday	Monday 31 st May – Friday 4 th June 2027
Summer – Term 6	
Start of Term – Children in School	Monday, 7 th June 2027
Last day of Term	Friday 23 rd July 2027
Term Break – Holiday	Monday 26 th July – 1 st week September TBC



Free School Meals Application

Free School Meals are available to support families and ensure every child has access to a healthy, nutritious meal during the school day. If your child is eligible, they will receive a free meal at lunchtime, and the school will also receive additional funding to support their learning. Families may qualify if they receive certain benefits, and applying is quick and confidential. Even if your child prefers packed lunches, applying still helps the school. If your child is eligible for free school meals, they are entitled to 1 free club space per term. Children are eligible automatically in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2. Please contact the school office if you require a paper form.



APPLICATION FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Please complete this form only if you are eligible under the categories listed overleaf and your child attends a Reading school.

PART A

Please provide the following information (PRINT)

Full Name of Claimant: (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)									
Address:									
Postcode:					Telephone:				
National Insurance Number:					Date of Birth: / /				
NASS Reference Number:									

Children for whom you are claiming:

Surname	Other Names	M/F	Date of Birth	School Attending	Relationship to Child
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Declaration by Claimant

I agree that you will use the information I have provided to process my claim for free school meals and will contact other sources as allowed by law to verify my initial, and ongoing, entitlement.	
Signature:	Date:

DATA SECURITY

Personal data provided on this form may be held on a computer and is therefore subject to the Data Protection Act 1998. It will only be used for the intended purpose i.e. to determine eligibility for FSM.