

September 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Beckford Nursery. We hope you had a wonderful summer and that your child's first term in Nursery will be an enjoyable and exciting time. We would like to let you know about some of the learning that will be taking place this term and some of the class routines with which you will need to familiarise yourself.

Learning

Each term we have an overarching theme and each week we plan activities around a story that will enable development in the seven areas of learning in the **Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum**:

Three Prime Areas -**Communication and Language, Physical Development, Personal, Social and Emotional Development,**

Four Specific Areas—**Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design.**

Activities will include short whole class carpet sessions, small adult-led groups and 'free flow play' where the children choose from a wide variety of activities both indoors and outdoors. The adults work with the children extending and developing their play, challenging them and recording information about their progress. You will see these 'observations' in your child's portfolio.

In the Autumn term our key focus is to settle the children happily and really get to know them well. We want to help them to develop good relationships within the class, establish good listening behaviour for learning and provide activities to develop fine and gross motor skills to support writing development, use of tools such as scissors and to promote self-help skills such as fastening zips.

Our topic for the Autumn term is '**Stories and Rhymes**' and the texts we have chosen will help to develop language skills and a love of story books.

Our key texts will include:

So Much by Trish Cooke

Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see? by Eric Carle

Peace At Last by Jill Murphy

The Pig in the Pond by Martin Waddell



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Routines

Beginning and End of Day

When you arrive in the morning, please bring your child into the Nursery through the **Nursery playground door**.

The school gates and classroom open at 8.50am. School starts at **9am** and your child is expected to arrive by this time. Children who arrive after 9.05am are marked as late in the register.

On their start date you can help your child settle into the day by joining them in some of the activities provided this can be until 9.15.

Home time

Please be on time to collect your child from the nursery playground door at 3.20.

We will try to keep the end of day dismissal as smooth and quick as possible, however, **the children's safety is our first priority**.

This means we need to release the children in an orderly, calm fashion which may take a few minutes. You can help by **waiting outside the Nursery** in our playground and not entering the coat area. People milling in this area can make the doorway congested and chaotic, it can then become difficult for the children to exit and for the staff to see if they have reached their grown-ups.

You **must** let us know if there is a change to your collection arrangement as we **will not release your child to anyone but you without your written or verbal permission**.

Reminders:

- Children with a packed lunch need a **healthy lunch**. We are a *Healthy School* so crisps, fizzy drinks, sweets or chocolate are not encouraged. See a member of staff if you would like some ideas.
- The children have access to the outdoor space all day every day. Please dress them for the weather! **Waterproof coats and wellington boots are essential** for rainy days.
- Old, comfortable clothing is best. Nursery is a place of exploration and play and the children may get messy and dirty despite our best efforts! Closed toe shoes are essential – no laces. To help your child to be independent with toileting please send them to school in trousers with an elasticated waist (no tight jeans, zips or buttons). Label EVERYTHING!
- No jewellery or toys please. Toys from home can get lost or broken which causes much distress!
- All children at Beckford now celebrate their birthday at school with a song and a sticker. Please note we no longer accept cakes, party bags or any sort of 'treats' for the class.
- Phone the school office by 9.30am if your child is going to be absent. If you are planning any absence during term time, you will need to seek the approval of the Head teacher.
- Everyday your child will need:
 - * a water bottle with your child's name written on
 - * Book folder (which the school provides)
 - * a change of clothes on their peg

Your child is in a place where they will be cared for, valued and nurtured and we are very excited about working with you all this year. If you have any questions or concerns along the way, please come and speak to a member of the team. We view our work very much as being in a partnership with you.

Kind Regards,

Gerri O'Brien, Djamila Boubatra & Kirsty Salkeld

The Nursery Team