



Welcome to Belswains Primary School
Reception Parents Meeting
Tuesday 7th July 2026



Aims of the Induction Meeting

To give you an overview of
Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)
and what your child will be learning



To provide ideas we can effectively work together
and how you can best support your child at home



To help you understand what to
expect from us





Meet the Team

Mrs Claridge
Head Teacher



Mrs Attanisio
Deputy Head Teacher



Mrs Shoesmith
EYFS Lead Robins Class Teacher



Miss Johnson
Sparrows Class Teacher





Meet the Team

Miss Hickson
Early Years Practitioner



Ms Dakin
Early Years Practitioner



Miss Harrow
Teaching Assistant



Mrs Haefeli
Teaching Assistant





Supporting Individual Needs



Our SENDCO is Mrs Jones



Why is Transition so Important?

Transition: A process not an event



Each child is different and some may take a little longer to settle

Our transition processes are based on the best interests and needs of your child.



We will work with you to help your child to settle and be confident in their new surroundings



Transition for your child

We will do this by:

- Home visits and 1 stay and play session
- Information gathered from the previous settings and parents.
- Transition for each child carefully planned with you and the class teacher where needed.
- Opportunities to ask questions and share concerns



What will my child be learning in Reception?

Prime Areas of Learning	Specific Areas of Learning
Personal, Social and Emotional	Literacy
Communication and Language	Mathematics
Physical Development	Understanding the World
	Expressive Arts and Design



How does my child learn?

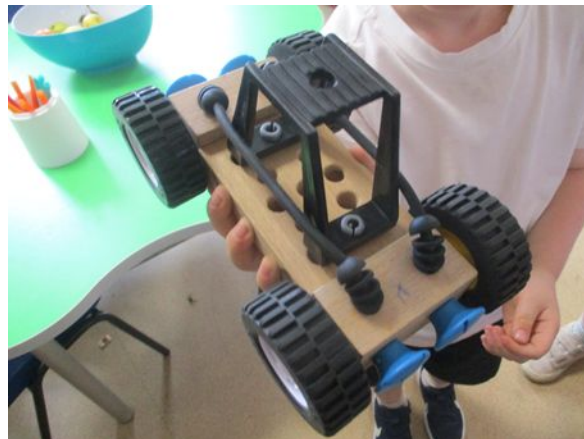
Characteristics of effective teaching and learning

- **The characteristics of effective teaching and learning are:**
 - **playing and exploring** - children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'
 - **active learning** - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements
 - **creating and thinking critically** - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things



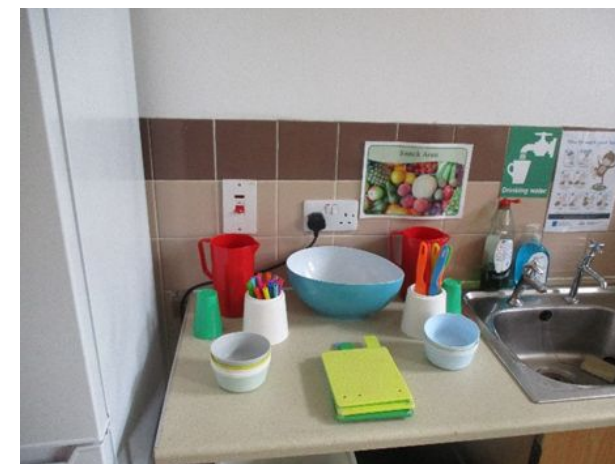


How will my child learn?





Provision in Reception



Phonics-

RWI is used in Reception; children are first taught the pure 'set 1 sounds' so that they will be able to blend the sounds in words more easily. In School we call this 'Fred Talk'. We do not use letter names at this stage; we simply focus on the sounds that are used to sound out words. To view correct pronunciation of the sounds, use the link below:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5J2Ddf_0Om8

At this stage, the children are not only taught the 'sound' the letter makes, but also how to form the letter, using a rhyme and picture prompt.

You will be sent specific phonics activities for your child to complete at home via Google Classroom each week. During the Autumn term these will be sound videos which recap the learning the children will have done at school. We will do a workshop in the Autumn term to explain about phonics and how you can support your children.





Daily Routines

- 8.40
- Arrival, registration and busy finger activities.
- Activities led by an adult (doors close at 8.45)
- Children are able to access snack
- Child initiated activities supported by adults
- 11.30
- LUNCH
- 12.30
- Activities led by an adult
- Child initiated activities supported by adults
- Story
- 3.15
- Home



How can I support my child at home?



**Communicate and talk with
your child**



**Enjoy physical activities
together**



**Have fun
exploring maths**



**Read, tell and make up stories
together**



**Support your child to do
things by themselves**



**Encourage your child to talk
and play with others**



How will we communicate with you?

Communication is so important. It plays a huge role in ensuring that you are regularly sharing information with us to best support your child.

We do this by...

- Daily chats at drop off and pick up time
- Termly parent consultation meetings and a report in Summer term
- Stay and Play session on Thursday the 9th July
- Google classroom, logins and passwords will be sent out in the first week of term.
- Newsletters
- Email admin@belswains.herts.sch.uk *Our admin team will pass emails on to the class teacher.*
- School Website <https://www.belswains.herts.sch.uk/>



We Support Learning at Home in a Variety of ways

Look out for:

- Parent consultations meetings in October and February
- Home learning suggestions including Read Write Inc videos to watch, homework grid, reading stories and asking questions.
- Parent/carer workshops (for example, how to support early reading Read Write Inc in late September date to be confirmed)
- Information in biweekly newsletters and the school website class pages
- Home/school learning packs including sound mats, reading books and homework books
- Information on displays around school



Uniform

White polo shirt or shirt

Red cardigan, sweatshirt or jumper.

Grey or black skirt or pinafore

Grey or black tailored trousers (trousers made of jersey fabric are permitted providing they give the appearance of smart trousers, not leggings)

Grey, white or black socks.

Grey, white or black tights.

Black shoes-these should be proper shoes ie not black trainers, crocs, or similar

Summer Uniform: as above, or red and white checked dress, grey or black knee-length tailored shorts.

Our Summer uniform can be worn from the return to school after the Easter break, up until October half term.



Uniform

PE

White t-shirt, black shorts which are suitable for school (including in length) and trainers (which can be any colour). Black jogging bottoms and a school jumper can be worn in winter for outdoor PE.

Jewellery

Apart from 1 pair of stud earrings (1 earring in each ear), no jewellery should be worn. Earrings must be removed or taped over for PE lessons. We permit the wearing of a watch or fitbit, as long as the device does not have the ability to take calls, photos or videos.

Hair

Hair should be a single natural colour. We advise that long hair should be tied back. All ribbons, slides, hair bands etc must be red, white or black and must be of a reasonable size.

Nail varnish or make-up should not be worn at school.



Lunches

Children can order a free school lunch everyday or you can send them in with a healthy packed lunch.

- There are 4 lunch choices that the children can pick from everyday, these are: red (meat), green (vegetarian), blue (jacket potato with the choice of a topping) and yellow (roll). Halal options are available certain days of the week. Children will be notified in the classroom the days these are available. Menu is in the welcome pack.
- If you send your child in with a healthy packed lunch please remember that everything in it needs to be **nut free** as we are a **nut free school**.
- We will provide the children with fruit everyday which they can have as a healthy snack.
- If you would like your child to have milk everyday please sign up for this via Cool Milk. This leaflet is in the welcome pack.



Allergies

If your child has a food allergy/intolerance (eg dairy, gluten or nut allergies) and will be having school meals, please complete a Special Menu request via HCL special menu this also includes vegan diet. This must be approved and live prior to them starting so that the kitchen is able to prepare their meals safely.

<https://specialmenu.hcl.co.uk/>

If your child has any food preference such as Vegetarian or Halal please add this information on Arbor.



Attendance

Staff at Belswains Primary School want our pupils to enjoy school and thrive in all that they do. We are committed to promoting excellent levels of attendance and punctuality. Our attendance target is **98%** and our aim is for our pupils to exceed this level. We appreciate your support to ensure your child achieves this.

Days off school add up to lost learning

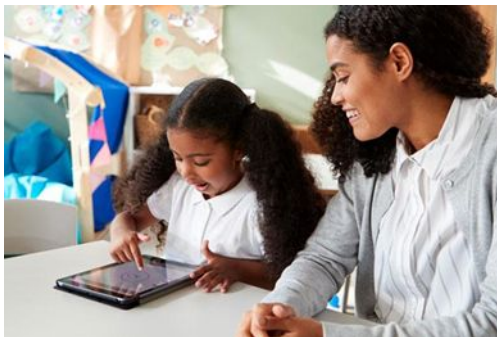
175 NON SCHOOL DAYS IN A YEAR

175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping,
household jobs and other appointments

190 DAYS FOR YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION EACH YEAR	10 DAYS ABSENCE	19 DAYS ABSENCE	29 DAYS ABSENCE (A TERM MISSED)	38 DAYS ABSENCE	47 DAYS ABSENCE
	180 DAYS OF EDUCATION	171 DAYS OF EDUCATION	161 DAYS OF EDUCATION	152 DAYS OF EDUCATION	143 DAYS OF EDUCATION
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%
		Persistent Absence			
Good Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start		Worrying Less chance of success. Makes it harder to make progress		Serious Concern Not fair on your child.	

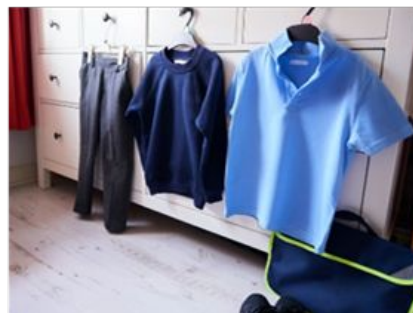


Keeping Children Safe is Everyone's Responsibility





Keeping Children Safe is Everyone's Responsibility







Breakfast club and Challenge Sport

Breakfast Club

We offer an on-site Breakfast Club, which is open from 07:30 until the start of the school day at 08:40.

The club is available to children from Reception to Year 6 and provides a welcoming and supervised environment before school. Children are offered a selection of breakfast items, including:

- Breakfast cereals
- Bagels
- Fresh fruit
- Water

After breakfast, children can enjoy a range of activities, games and books until the start of the school day.

Places at Breakfast Club must be booked and paid for in advance via Arbor. For further information, please contact the school office.

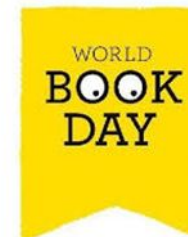


Future dates for your diary for the Autumn term

- **Autumn Term 2026**
- INSET: Tuesday 1st September 2026 school closed for pupils
- Start of term: Wednesday 2nd September 2026 School reopens for pupils, A letter confirming your start times for this 3 days will be out straight after the Stay and Play.
- Monday 7th September will be the children's first full day of school 8.40 till 3.15pm.
- **Half term holiday:** 26th October 2026 – 30th October 2026
- INSET: Monday 2nd November school closed for pupils
- Tuesday 3rd November school reopens for pupils
- Final day of term: Friday 18th December School closes 13:30
- **Christmas holiday:** 21st December 2026 – 1st January 2027



Special week/days



GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL.



Tick off the following activities over the summer to help you get ready for school



Find out what is going on at your local family centre



Visit some local parks



Join the local library



Explore the local woods



Practise washing your hands with soap, independently



Practise taking your coat off and putting it back on



Play a board game and practise taking turns



Practise your journey to school



Practise putting your uniform on and taking it off



Practise putting your school shoes on and try wearing them for a day



Practise carrying your food on a plate



Learn to sing a number rhyme



Share books with an adult



Share your toys with a friend



Try a variety of fruit prepare this yourself

★ WELL DONE! YOU ARE 'GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL!' ★