



September 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Welcome to your first school year at Haydn. We have really enjoyed meeting you and your children and settling in together. They have done really well learning the new routine of coming in, finding their pegs and sitting beautifully on the carpet for register time. We are so proud and pleased! No doubt they will all be tired now and will enjoy a rest over the weekend.

Over the first half term, we will focus on settling into school life, exploring our new environment and learning about working together. We will emphasise the importance of friendships and how to share and co-operate with others.

Stories and Books

Our first special book will be, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. We will enjoy acting out the story and will even take part in a sensory walk! Throughout the autumn term we will be reading 'The Little Red Hen', 'Leaf Man', 'Owl Babies', 'Pumpkin Soup' and last but not least, 'The Christmas Story'.

Festivals, Seasons and Traditions

We love celebrating different festivals and will be finding out about traditions celebrated in Diwali, Bonfire Night and Christmas. It would be wonderful for the children to share any photographs showing how they celebrate these festivals at home. Over the term, we will also be looking for signs of autumn and seasonal changes and will enjoy a walk around our local community. We would love it if your child brought in any seasonal finds to help us to create an autumnal themed Nature Table. Finally, we would really like the children to participate in food preparation sessions across the year and will be collecting voluntary £5.00 activity money this term to buy ingredients. We will be collecting your voluntary contributions at the classroom doors. We really appreciate your contributions.

Underpinning this work will be all the new skills we are learning and practising. We are concentrating on developing fine motor skills which enable the children to use tools safely and efficiently including using scissors and holding a pencil to form letters correctly. We will introduce the children to our classroom characters; 'Pop' who helps us practise the new letter sounds we are learning in our daily phonics sessions and 'Puzzle' who helps us with our numbers.

Your child will receive their free book bag and Home School Diary during the week commencing 18th September. Please ensure that your child reads to or with an adult every day at home. They will also read with an adult, in a guided group, three times a week in school. If you are able to offer any time as a reading volunteer it would be very much appreciated. Please contact a member of the team if you

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can spare a little time each week to support the children to build their reading confidence. We will be in touch with you soon to arrange a time. Whilst Home School Diaries can be used to celebrate any learning at home and for documenting your child's reading journey, please remember to use our Class Dojo App for updates about things you may need us to know.

We will use Class Dojo to update you weekly with any forthcoming events and dates for your diary. You can communicate with us by either speaking to us after school, writing in the Home School Diary, private messaging us on Class Dojo or requesting an appointment.

PE Lessons

For the first half term PE lessons will take place every Wednesday morning starting 27th September. Children can come to school wearing their PE kit all day. This consists of blue or black shorts (or jogging bottoms/leggings if the weather is cooler), a white t-shirt and trainers. Please label all belongings! In our PE lessons we will be developing our co-ordination and movement skills.

Thank you for labelling your child's school uniform and getting to school promptly. This has enabled us to have a smooth start and we appreciate your support. Thank you again for your support during this transitional time and we are very confident that the children have benefited from being eased in gently.

We are looking forward to a busy and happy term.

Yours sincerely,

The F2 Team