



School founded 1843
Head teacher: Miss N Green
Company number: 8143249

The Green
Datchet
Berkshire
SL3 9EJ
Tel: 01753 542982

email: office@datchetstmarysacademy.co.uk
www.datchetstmarysacademy.co.uk

Wednesday 15th July 2020

Dear Parent/carers

Due to the current situation and these uncertain times we are unable to hold our familiarisation picnic and so instead I am sending you some information to help with any questions you may have about your child starting Nursery in September.

The three main key points I would like to reassure you about is that at Datchet St Mary's

- ❖ We are committed to helping your child in this important stage of their life
- ❖ Learning in Nursery is fun and exciting but well managed
- ❖ Your child will be absolutely fine- they will make friends, learn and be happy.

First day

Your child's start date for Nursery will be attached to this letter. We stagger the children's entry into Nursery to ensure your child transitions and settles well. We will open our grey EYFS gate between 9.00-9.10am where we will collect your child and take them around to the Nursery class. Due to the DFE guidelines, we will be unable to invite parents onto the school site to help settle the children into the classroom and ask that you say goodbye at the gate. We will contact you during the morning to update you on how your child is settling. At 12.00-12.10pm we will again open the EYFS grey gate where we will dismiss the children.

Staff your children will meet in Nursery Class

Miss Andrews- Class teacher
Miss Dyer-Nursery Nurse
Mrs Ram- Teaching Assistant

Staff your children will meet in Reception Class

Mrs Gilchrist- Class teacher
Mrs Liddell – Higher level teaching Assistant
Mrs Knight – NNEB
Mrs Johnson- Teaching Assistant





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The Nursery Morning

The morning session begins at 9.00-9.10

The session ends at 12.00-12.10

Lunch

Unfortunately, due to the current circumstances we can not provide the opportunity of lunch club. However, it is something we will review at the end of October.

Illness and allergies

- ❖ Absence – please telephone the school office in the morning to inform us of any absence.
- ❖ Medication – must be named, taken to the office and complete a permission form.
- ❖ Allergies – we must be notified in writing of any allergies.
- ❖ It is very important that you ensure that contact details are up to date.

Milk, water and fruit

- ❖ Milk and water will be available all morning for children as well as a piece of fruit.
- ❖ We operate a self-serve snack area, so children can have a drink and 1 piece of fruit when they wish and sit in the snack area with it.

We will be monitoring the cleanliness of the snack area and ensuring children are washing their hands before eating and drinking.

Online Learning Journal

We use observations of the children to inform our assessments. We record observations using I pads and I pods. Observations will then be saved to your child's online journal where you will have access to view your child's journal. The access to your child's learning journal enables you to:

- ❖ Track your child's progress
- ❖ Share with your child all the learning and activities that they are doing in Nursery Class
- ❖ Comment and contribute to your child's assessments by uploading your own home observations. We also use online journals as show and tell to give children a chance to show to their friends any activities, or exciting adventures they have been up to with their families. The





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children enjoy standing at the front of the class showing their photos and discussing what they have done.

- ❖ It is safe. Nobody else has access to it. The journal will be sent to the one email address you have provided
- ❖ More information will be provided in September.

Focus children

Six times in an academic year your child will be our focus child. During this week we all write down what your child is demonstrating he/she can do and what intreats/learning was explored. During the interactions that are recorded we will write down the teaching and how each child's next steps are planned for in that moment and the learning that takes place. The adults will follow the child's lead as usually the good ideas for activities and learning opportunities come from the children themselves! More information will be provided in September.

House Groups

There are four houses;

- ❖ **Earth (green)**
- ❖ **Air (yellow)**
- ❖ **Fire (red)**
- ❖ **Water (blue)**

Children will have been told their house group in September. We try where possible for siblings to be placed in the same house. House groups, for Nursery are mainly used during sports day at the end of the academic year.

SCOPAY

Once your child has started Nursery Class in September you will receive a letter with a code on it to register your child online. This is an online payment system where you can do the following

- ❖ Sign up for parents evening slots
- ❖ And any other after school activities.
- ❖ Pay for school lunches (If and when this becomes available).





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School Uniform

Full details of our Nursery uniform can be found on our school website. On the website below you will find the Blue Book bag and the blue Nursery sweatshirt. However, uniform is optional.

www.aquauniforms.co.uk

Provisions for children with special educational needs

Miss Green is the SENCO. If you have any concerns regarding your child's educational needs please speak to Miss Green or Miss Andrews.

Library Books

Children will take home a library book of their choosing every Friday. This is a book for you to read, share and enjoy with your child. Please make sure the library book is in your child's bookbag the following Friday so they can return it and choose another one.

Video Message

Your child's new teachers have made a video message to help welcome them to school in September. Please watch this with your child and revisit from time to time so they become familiar with the idea of seeing their new teacher in September.

Worries or concerns

As we are unable to meet face to face I am sure some of you may have questions or things that you may wish to discuss with me. I am happy to answer and questions you may have through our school learning email learning2@datchetstmarysacademy.co.uk. Please title emails FAO Miss Andrews.

From everyone in Nursery Class, we hope you all have a wonderful summer and we look forward to welcoming you into our Nursery and school in September.

Miss Andrews

