



Curriculum meeting

9.00 – 9.10 Welcome and chat
(please mingle!)

9.10 – 9.35 Curriculum meeting

9.35 - 9.45 Ask the teacher

WELCOME TO AYLWARD

Reception Year 2026-2027

Curriculum meeting aims:

- Opportunity to meet other families;
- Overview of EYFS;
- Insight into our ambitious curriculum;
- Supporting your child's learning journey; and
- Key info, including daily routines, home learning and reporting absences

Our Reception Teachers



Mrs Moorhouse
Assistant Head
EYFS & Key Stage 1



Miss Clare
EYFS Leader
Reception Teacher
Rainbow Class



Mrs Bennett
Reception Teacher
Snowflake Class



Miss Mendonça
Reception Teacher
Sunshine Class

Our Reception Team



Mrs Miller-James
Nursery Nurse (Mon-Weds)



Mrs Turpie
Nursery Nurse (Mon & Weds)



Miss Hiskey
Nursery Nurse (Mon-Fri)



Mrs Meerkhil
LSA (Weds-Fri)



Miss Livy
Nursery Nurse (Tues-Fri)

At Aylward, we provide a **nurturing** and **inclusive** environment where every child is **inspired** and **motivated** to explore, enjoy and achieve a **good level of development**. We are committed to building a wide range of skills that create a **strong foundation** in readiness for Year 1 and future success in school and life.



Inspiring learning environments

Aylward Primary School  Inspire • Enjoy • Achieve



The Early Years Foundation Stage

The **Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)** is the curriculum framework for children from birth to age 5. It sets the standards for learning, development, and care to ensure every child gets the best possible start in life.

It's designed to be:

- **Play-based**
- **Child-centred**
- Focused on developing the **whole child** – emotionally, socially, physically, and academically

The EYFS

Every learning experience, both indoors and out, has links to the different areas of the EYFS curriculum.

- **Communication and Language** - role play, speaking, listening and turn-taking conversations
- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development** – understanding and managing emotions, circle times, group play, exploring friendships
- **Physical development** – fine and gross motor skills, core strength and co-ordination
- **Mathematics** – shape, space, sorting, reasoning, counting, recognising numbers and patterns
- **Literacy** - developing language, pleasure for reading, mark making, songs, rhymes and phonics.
- **Understanding the World** - building on experiences with links to science, geography and history
- **Expressive Arts and Design** – imagination, creativity, designing, media and materials.



The Characteristics of Effective Learning

Ever thought about HOW your child learns? We do! We are careful to observe and plan around children's **engagement**, **motivation**, **creativity** and **critical thinking**, building on their skills to:

Problem solve



Persevere



Give things a go!



The Characteristics of Effective Learning



Develop their own ideas



Recognise their achievements



Make links in learning and achievements

Aylward Values



Planning for Learning

It is essential we understand children's starting points so we can best plan activities to support, stretch and challenge children's individual learning and development. We want to **inspire** children's love for learning and ensure they **enjoy** and **achieve** throughout their school journey.

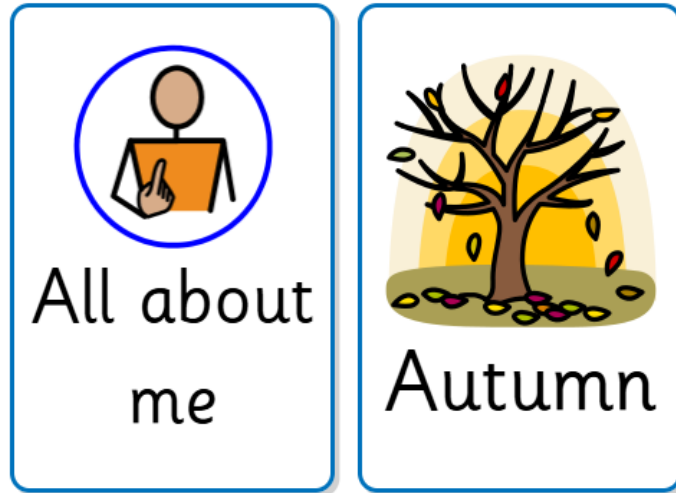
When planning in reception, we:

- use an EYFS Skills and Progression map;
- think carefully about the skills we want children to master;
- provide an interest led approach: supporting children's interests, strengths and areas of weakness; and
- encourage parental partnership links.

Topics

During the Reception year, children will explore a range of exciting topics designed to **spark curiosity** and **develop skills** across all areas of learning.

In the Autumn term this starts with:



Each term, you will find key information about the learning topics, in our Knowledge Organisers, available on our school website.

Baseline Assessments

We are currently assessing children across all **7 areas of learning**. Children are taking part in a range of fun and motivating activities and assume they are just playing a range of games with us!

In addition, children are also participating in a **Reception Baseline Assessment** (RBA). This data is shared with the Government and is used to measure the progress schools make with their pupils. The assessment provides information on children's:

- Literacy, Communication and Language skills
- Mathematics skills

There is no 'score' and children cannot pass or fail. The test is newly digital so will be completed on an iPad in school.



Learning Outdoors:

Children require an equal balance of learning both indoors and outdoors. The activities outside are just as important as those inside and we promote this through a free flow routine. All children will:

- go out whatever the weather;
- plant, grow and harvest;
- engage with larger, messier and more physical activities – please remember this when choosing your child's winter coat;
- participate in risky play; and
- come home messy; it means they are playing and learning. It's a good thing!





Show improved
attention

Improve physical
health and increase
motor abilities

Find similarities and
differences, observe
and classify

Be energetic,
adventurous
and assess
risk

Why play outside?

Make marks,
use large
scale media,
be messy, be
creative

Socialise and interact in new
and different ways with their
peers and adults

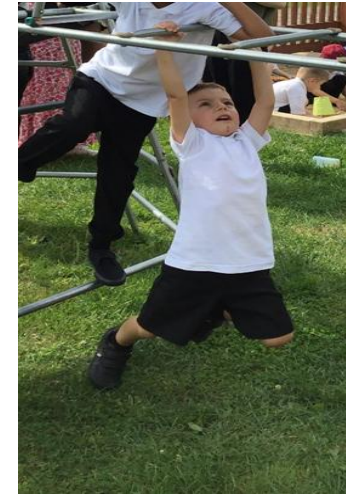
Opportunities to plan,
build, evaluate and
sometimes demolish



Risk Taking

Robust health and safety checks and risks assessments are in place at Aylward, and monitored routinely, to ensure every child is safe. Children will be:

- Supported to take risks within a safe and secure environment.
- Offered challenge and learn how to be safe/be aware of others. This includes using the Trim Trail and outdoor resources safely.
- Learning to handle child-appropriate knives, graters, scissors and nails when taking part in different activities like construction, DT and cooking.



Forest School

All children will participate in Forest School sessions across the year with Mrs Wall, our Forest School teacher. These sessions will:

- Take place every **Tuesday and Wednesday morning**, no matter the weather.
- Require **wellies and appropriate clothing**; waterproof coat, hat/scarf. Children should also have a spare change of clothes in school as sometimes they get *extremely* dirty!
- Provide opportunity for engagement in the **natural environment**.

Each child will attend multiple sessions throughout the year, owing to the **weekly rotation** of groups.



Phonics



At Aylward we **teach children to read** through a phonics programme called Read Write Inc.

Phonics lessons starts promptly at 9am, every day.

This phonics programme is:

- Systematic and lively!
- Effective in enabling all children to become confident and fluent readers
- A daily routine in school. RWI sessions last up to 45 minutes, where the children learn new sounds, read words and relevant books which are carefully matched to the sounds they know
- Monitored closely - children are assessed each half term and grouped according to their reading levels.
- Children are streamed and will work with other children who are at the same reading level from across Reception and KS1. Your child's phonics teacher may not necessarily be their class teacher, they will work with different adults across Reception and KS1.

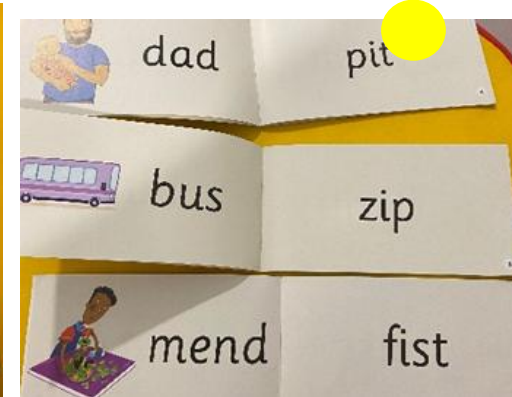
Reading at Home

Here are some examples of the first books that some children will begin taking home once RWI assessments have been completed.

These books:

- Get progressively harder,
- Have a picture correspondence to match the word,
- Will only be changed once your child is fluent in reading the words.

Once children are confident with their blending (saying each sound and pinching the sounds together to hear a word) and know all of the Set 1 sounds fluently, then they will begin to take home books containing special friends and **red words**.

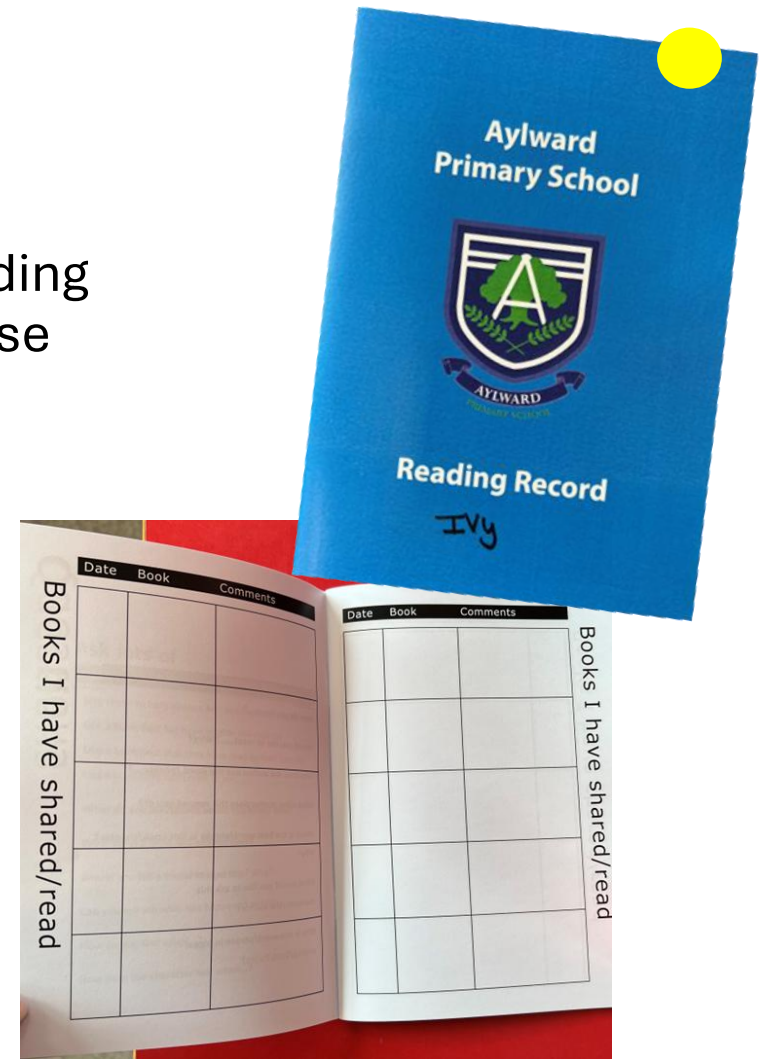


Reading Journals

Reading journals are a place to **celebrate** and **record** your child's reading journey! The reading journal must **stay in your child's book bag**. Please ensure you:

- Add the date and title of the book
- Acknowledge you have read with your child by **adding a comment**
- Look after it!

In addition to listening to a story at home, every day, children should be reading their own **phonics book** at least **3 times a week**. A reading chart will be displayed on the class window to monitor reading activity.



Developing a Love of Reading

- **Read Write Inc. Phonics Books** – matched to your child's individual reading level and **changed once a week**. Children are to read these books to you, as independently as possible. Remember children may keep the same book if they are not yet fluent reading the words.
- **Library books** – books to be shared and enjoyed as a family. You can read these to them. **Changed once a week**, during our class library session.
- **Lending Library books** – launched this half term. Books to be shared at home and swapped as frequently as you like. This is open at the end of the day in the playground.
- Any books lost or damaged will need to be paid for via your **Arbor** account.



Birthday Books

Around the time of your child's birthday, you might wish to purchase a **new book** for the **school library** from our Birthday Books List. As we are a healthy eating school, we do not allow party bags with sweets, cakes or treats so this is a great alternative!

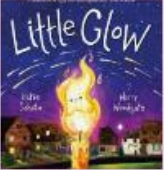
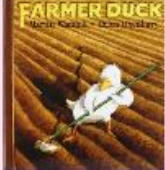
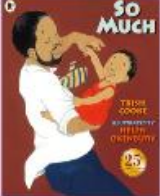
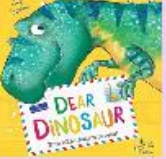
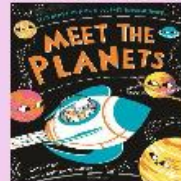
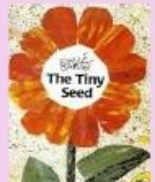
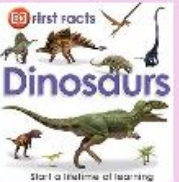
Entirely optional, it is a lovely way for children to celebrate their birthday and will be a gift that will be shared and treasured in our library for many years.

Books will be:

- Handed in to the class teacher and shared with the school office
- Inscribed with the name of the child
- Mentioned in the school's newsletter!



Core texts

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Owl Babies 	Little Glow 	Whatever Next 	Farmer Duck 	One Little Butterfly 	Tyrannosaurus Drip 
So Much 	Busy People book set    	Odd Fish 	One Day in Our Blue Planet 	Jack and the Beanstalk 	Dear Dinosaur 
The Leaf Thief 	The Best Diwali Ever 	Meet the Planets 	The Very Hungry 	The Tiny Seed 	First Facts - Dinosaurs 

Our Reception Core Texts have been carefully mapped out with links to the topics, children's interests and curriculum.

These texts are important because they help Reception children develop their **reading, language, imagination** and **understanding of the world**.

Toothbrushing

Children in Reception will take part in a national programme called the 'Supervised Toothbrushing Programme' soon.

The children will:

- Have their own toothbrush, stored in a special holder. These holders are colour coded and numbered so that we know where the brushes belong and they can't get mixed up.
- Be supervised by an adult to ensure they are brushing their teeth properly.
- Need your consent to take part.

Consent forms will go home in your child's book bag today. Please return these by next Wednesday.



Daily Routines

We welcome children into class, with morning routines and activities in place, from 8.40am.

Please follow the one-way system outside reception.

Rainbow Class to come in first, followed by Snowflake and then Sunshine.

The doors close at 8:53am. If you are late then please take your child to the main office where they will be signed in and taken to class.

Children will participate in a variety of learning activities throughout the day.

There are focussed sessions during the school day including; maths, literacy, topic and RWI.

Fruit and vegetables are provided by the school. Children enjoy their snack during the morning session.

Children can also have milk if they choose to, up until they are 5 years of age.

Lunch is from 11:45am-12:45pm. Hot school meals are provided **FREE** of charge. Please make sure you have filled in the 'Free School Meals' form which you can get from the office.

You will be notified by the class teacher if your child is not eating at lunch time. We will then ask that you provide a packed lunch for your child.

Packed lunches should include healthy snacks such as fruit, yoghurts, cheeses etc. We are a NUT FREE SCHOOL so please ensure any chocolate spreads are NUT FREE.

The school day finishes at 3.10pm. Please ensure you are here on time to pick up your child. If you are late then collect your child via the school office.

Home Learning

Home learning activities will be launched soon and shared on a Wednesday. These aim to boost your child's motivation and confidence for learning whilst encouraging them to apply taught skills. The activities will:

- be linked to what we are doing in class
- help to consolidate learning and recall of different facts
- enable children to remember new skills and concepts they have learned
- vary each week!

Your child's home learning book is a celebration of their achievements. Please take good care of it and ensure it is returned on a Wednesday morning.

Children should be encouraged to return their home learning books independently by placing them into the box or basket.

Parental Partnership

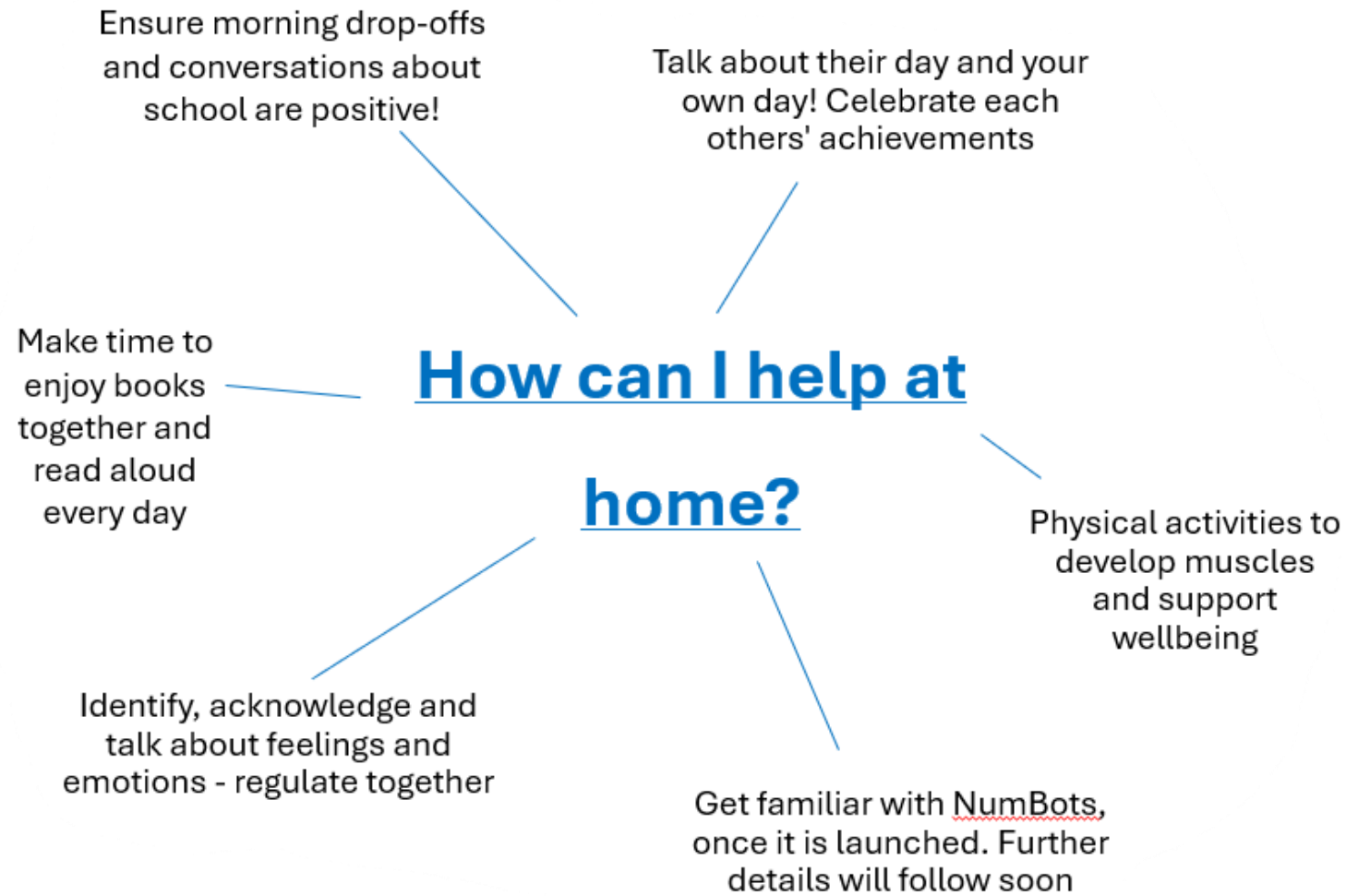
We encourage links between home and school and want to ensure you, as parents and carers, are involved in your child's learning journey. Keep an eye out for:

- Notices outside classrooms
- The school's fortnightly newsletter - uploaded on the school website

Be aware of:

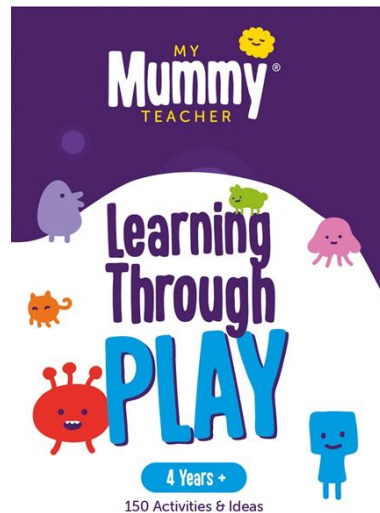
- Privacy before and after school – if other parents' are talking to an adult at the door
- Liaising via the school office – emails will be passed on to us

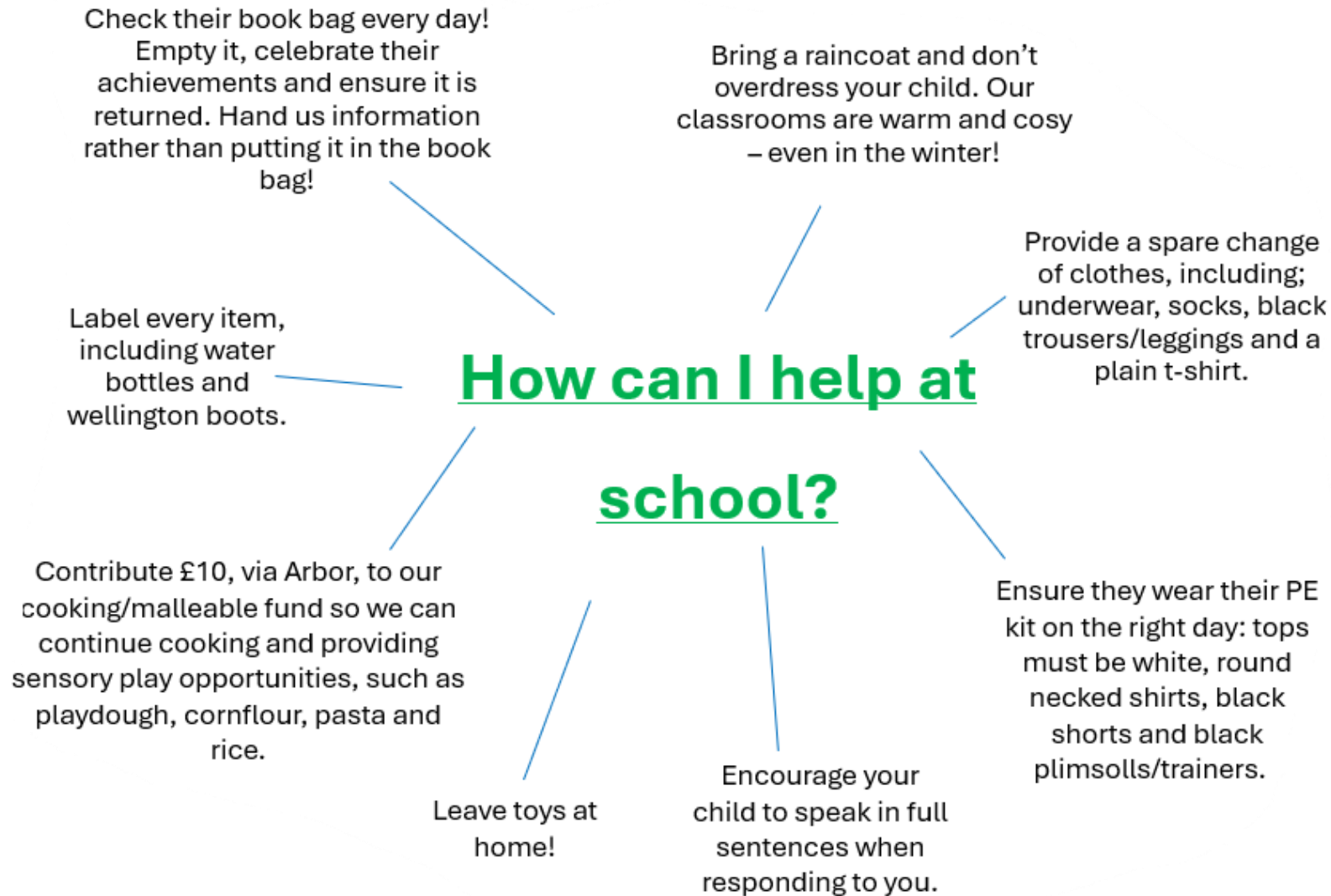




Supporting Learning at Home

Some recommended books and activities to promote learning at home through easy set-up, fun and engaging activities. Simply search or follow on socials: Five Minute Mum or My Mummy Teacher.





Arbor

Arbor is an online portal where you will receive school notifications, such as:

- Newsletters;
- Information/payment details about school trips;
- School club updates and sign-up options;
- Payments for lost and damaged items; and
- Be able to select your child's hot lunches.



Punctuality

Our Reception school day runs from 8.50am – 3.10pm

- Please wait outside the EYFS gate until a member of staff opens up
- Children are expected to walk in independently
- Soft start between 8.40 (doors open) and 8.53am (doors close)
- The class register is taken at 8:53am
- Late arrivals will need to sign in at the school office
- Pick up is at 3.10pm



**Tick tock rise and
shine Aylward
starts at ten to
nine!**

Attendance

Good attendance is essential for children to settle and thrive in school.

If your child is going to be absent, please **contact the school office as soon as possible**.

Follow our 48-hour policy after any sickness or diarrhoea to help prevent the spread of illness.

Regular communication with the school helps us ensure your child's wellbeing and supports a smooth return to learning.

UK Health Security Agency

NHS

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

	Until...
Chickengpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No
but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek

SCAN ME

Advice and guidance
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrcode/minfoc>



Key Messages

- We are excited to support your child's learning and development.
- You are your child's first and most enduring teacher - they need your time and attention.
- We need your support and involvement – please let us know how your child is developing at home and share updates via email.
- **Always** talk to us if you have any concerns or questions.
- Please let us know about any changes at home.
- **You can contact your child's teacher by emailing the school office; your correspondence will be sent to the class teacher.**

Dates for your diary

- Thursday 8th October – Family reading afternoon, from 3pm
- Tuesday 20th October – SEN coffee morning (timings TBC)
- Thursday 5th November – Reception Stay and Play, from 2.30pm

Goody bags

Playdough ideas

Playdough is a great tool to strengthen your child's muscles in their hands and fingers! As they roll, squeeze, press and stretch the dough, their fine motor skills are working hard. This in turn, supports early writing skills and pencil control.

Follow these links to some fun and interactive playdough songs!



'Down in the jungle' dough dance



'I like to playdough' dough dance

Or encourage these skills:



rolling and counting balls



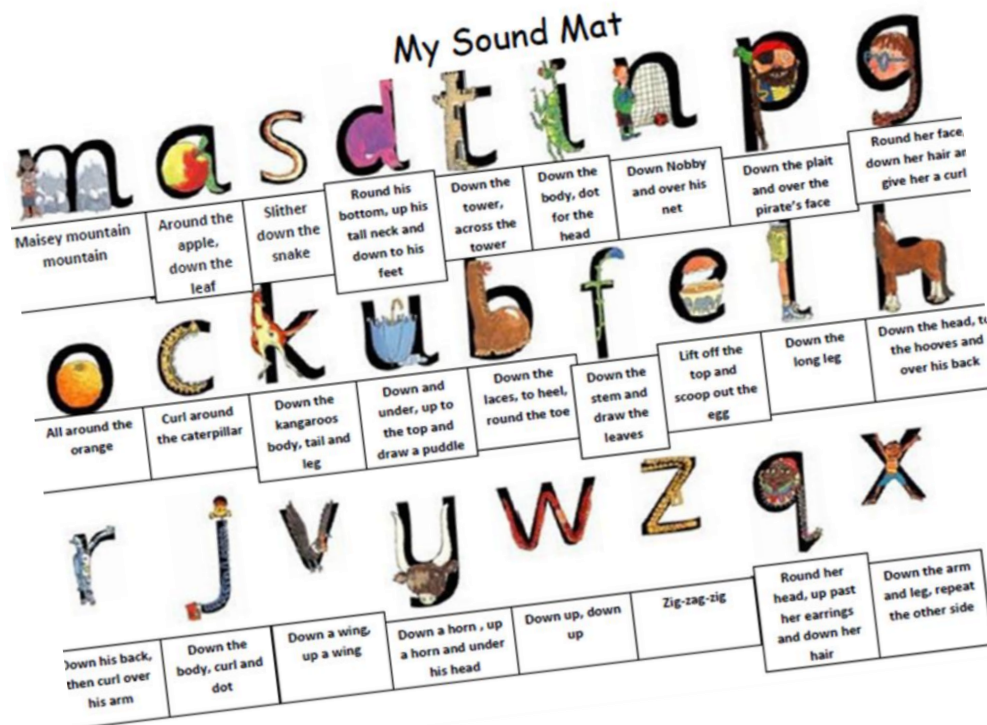
cutting with cutlery



twisting and stretching



creating letters and numbers



Easy-peasy play dough recipe

Ingredients

- 2 cups flour
- 1/2 cup salt
- 2 tablespoons cooking oil
- 2 tablespoons cream of tartar or baking soda
- 2 cups boiling water
- 1 teaspoon food colouring

How to make play dough

1. Mix all the dry ingredients together.
2. Add the oil, boiling water and food colouring and mix really well.
3. The mixture may seem quite wet to start with, but will soon begin to dry out.
4. Store the play dough in an airtight container and it will stay fresh for weeks!



**AYLWARD PRIMARY
SCHOOL**
Inspire, Enjoy, Achieve

**TERM
DATES**

**LUNCH
MENU**

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www.aylwardschool.org.uk

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