



## Advice for new parents from current parents

At the end of their first half term we asked previous EYFS parents a series of questions, the following 2 questions were aimed at hopefully helping you – our new parents.

<p><b>If you were talking to one of next year's parents</b> what would you tell them are the most important things their child needs to be able to do <b>before they start school?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well established sleep routine</li> <li>• Be able to go to the toilet by themselves</li> <li>• Be able to communicate their needs and feelings</li> <li>• Look forward to starting school (Be positive and keep it low key)</li> <li>• Be able to separate from you easily</li> <li>• Know the value of sharing</li> <li>• Participate in the trial days</li> <li>• Be able to put on and do up their coat</li> <li>• Be able to stop 1 activity they are enjoying and switch to another</li> <li>• Be able to recognize their own name</li> <li>• Be able to dress and undress themselves for PE</li> <li>• Be able to eat independently - using cutlery</li> <li>• Play with different children - meet up with others if possible</li> </ul>
<p><b>If you were talking to one of next year's parents</b> what advice would you give them about <b>helping their child to settle</b> into school?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be positive about school - if you are happy about school your child will be too</li> <li>• Mrs Whitfield is very approachable - ask anything - she is always happy to help, bring her your worries rather than other parents</li> <li>• Get in on time</li> <li>• Don't hang around, kind but firm</li> <li>• Be prepared for some behaviour adjustment</li> <li>• Limit after school activities - have some down time</li> <li>• Expect them to be tired</li> <li>• Get involved - open door, visits before eg summer fair</li> <li>• Try not to compare your child to others they all develop in their own way</li> <li>• Book the first week off work so you can drop off and collect</li> <li>• Keep the lunch menu so you can discuss lunches</li> <li>• Talk about their day when they are ready - school gave us a sheet with ideas to help this - it was very useful - used with older children too!</li> <li>• Give them time to settle</li> <li>• If going to use 623 club visit before</li> <li>• Look at the booklet about school talk about what they can expect to happen</li> <li>• Listen to the school's advice</li> </ul>

We would say that all of the above is very useful advice - alongside remembering every child is different. Please be reassured that we will work with you to ensure it is a happy and successful time - so most importantly - COME and TALK to us - we are here to listen and help.

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