



6<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to Unicorn Class! We sincerely hope that your child will enjoy their first year at school and we will be doing everything we can to ensure they settle in quickly.

From this week children will be bringing home a reading record book containing a weekly homework sheet. This is one of the ways in which we communicate with you and it will contain information, messages and upcoming events so it is important that you read this carefully at the start of each week. Equally you may need to get messages to us from time to time so please feel free to write them on this sheet. We have an open door policy and are more than happy to speak to you at the end of the school day about any concerns or questions you may have. Please be assured that there are no stupid questions or trivial matters and we are here to help.

Attached is some further information which we hope that you will find useful. This includes a parent's guide to the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage), how you as parents can assist in their learning and development and what is expected of them by the end of Reception. Over the course of the year we will be building up an EYFS Profile of every child which will measure their attainment against 17 areas of learning, known as Early Learning Goals (ELGs). However, this profile cannot be completed at school alone and we require your help to build up a holistic picture of them, not just a snapshot. Sometimes children demonstrate skills at home that we at school do not see, particularly if children are shy at school but confident and outgoing at home. With this in mind we welcome any evidence of children's achievements at home, for example, photographs, art work, sporting certificates, mark-making or writing examples, anything that children have completed independently, outside of school. These are then added to children's Learning Journey books which is our way of evidencing children's achievements. Children can take their completed book home at the end of the year which also makes them a lovely memento of their first year at school.

We hope that you find the documents informative and that it answers some initial questions about EYFS, but please do ask if there is any further information you require.

Thank you in advance for your support and I look forward to getting to know you and your child during their first year at Woodham Walter.

Mrs J Thain

Reception Teacher