



Bottisham Community Primary School

Beechwood Avenue
Bottisham
Cambridgeshire
CB259BE
01223 811235

office@bottishamprimary.org

<https://bottishamprimary.org/>

Headteacher: Rebecca Brierley

Acorns Preschool Class Autumn Term Newsletter

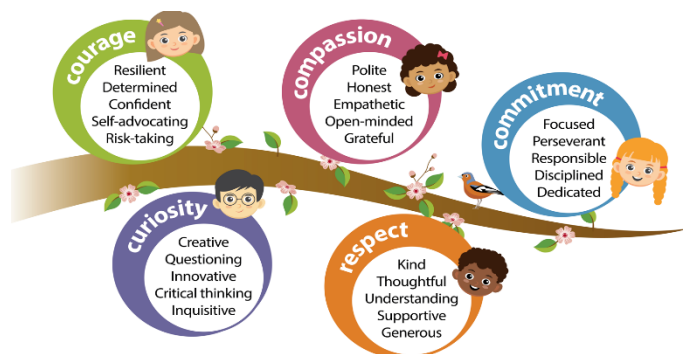


Dear Parents, carers,

We hope you all had a wonderful summer, and we look forward to an exciting autumn term in Acorns Preschool Class. An especially warm welcome to all our new children and their families joining us as we start a new school year.

Our School Values

At Bottisham Community Primary School, our whole school values and the learning habits that go alongside them are an important set of attributes which we aspire to for all our pupils. In Acorns Preschool Class, staff will model these values and habits in their everyday practice and support the children to explore and develop an understanding of these values and habits through their independent and group play. We will also introduce and help the children to understand some of this new vocabulary, through conversations, games and stories.



In Acorns Preschool Class our long-term aim is to prepare the children for starting in Reception Class next September by ensuring we provide as many opportunities as possible for the children to explore our wider school and join in with whole school activities. In time, we aim to make weekly visits to the school library, take part in physical activities in the school hall and visit the school field for fun and games.

Polite Reminder.

Please could you ensure that your child has the following items in school at all times –

- At least one spare set of clothes including socks/tights
- Indoor shoes
- Wellington Boots





To begin with our focus will be settling the children into their new Preschool classroom and familiarising them with both the indoor and outdoor environments. Staff will help the children to manage their belongings, become familiar with the routines and expectations of Preschool and support them in developing new friendships.

Activities and focused learning are planned around specific topics, details of which can be found in our autumn term Topic Web. The Topic Web is also designed to give you guidance as to how you can be supporting your child at home throughout each school term.

Developing Children's Vocabulary.

The development of vocabulary and language skills from an early age is essential for a child's overall development. The ability to communicate effectively supports social skills, such as making friends and managing feelings and behaviour as well as promoting independence and building confidence. A wide vocabulary and good use and understanding of language will also support your child as they progress through the school, from early reading to writing their own stories.

For this reason, the development of children's vocabulary is one of the main areas of focus in both Acorns Preschool Class and Reception Class. At the start of each new topic we will identify key vocabulary that staff will use regularly when engaging with the children in activities. We will also encourage the children to experiment with using new vocabulary as they play. Parents will be sent a Key Vocabulary letter listing this vocabulary and providing details of activities and books being used in the classroom to support our learning.

Important Reminders...

- Weather - as we all know the weather can be rather unpredictable, especially at this time of year. As we spend a considerable proportion of our session outside, please check the weather forecast before coming to Preschool and ensure that your child is appropriately dressed for the day. All children will need a **named, empty water bottle in their bags every day**. Water bottles will be filled when the children arrive and refilled throughout the day.
- Independence - At Preschool we encourage and promote the children to be as independent as possible. You can support this at home by encouraging your child to dress themselves in the mornings. We ask that you send your child to Preschool in footwear which also supports this e.g. Velcro shoes, so that they can take them off and put them on independently – consequently no buckles or laces please.

We look forward to beginning this year's journey with the children and families in Acorns Preschool Class. If you ever have any questions or queries, feel free to contact me via email jclaydon@bottishamprimary.org and I will respond as soon as I am able once preschool finishes. Alternatively, if you prefer to speak to me in person, please catch me at the gate **at the end of the preschool day**.

Please note that as there are only two members of staff in the classroom, I am unable to answer questions at the gate at the start of the day.

If you need to contact us in the event of an emergency or there is a change to arrangements for collecting your child, please contact the school office in the first instance as staff in the classroom may not be able to access emails during the school day.





Acorns Preschool Class Staff Timetable

Monday	AM Mrs Claydon (Class Teacher) Mrs Missing (Teaching Assistant)	PM Mrs Claydon (Class Teacher) Mrs Missing (Teaching Assistant)
Tuesday	AM Mrs Claydon (Class Teacher) Mrs Missing (TA)	PM Mrs Claydon (Class Teacher) Mrs Missing (TA)
Wednesday	AM Mrs Claydon (Class Teacher) Mrs Smart (Formerly Miss Dilley) (Higher Level TA)	PM Mrs Claydon (Class Teacher) Mrs Smart (Higher Level TA)
Thursday	AM Mrs Claydon (Class Teacher) Mrs Smart (HLTA)	PM Mrs Claydon (Class Teacher) Mrs Smart (HLTA)
Friday	AM Mrs Smart (HLTA) Mrs Missing (TA) (Mrs Claydon PPA – not in classroom)	PM Mrs Smart (HLTA) Mrs Missing (TA)

Kind regards,

Jackie Claydon
Acorns Preschool Class Teacher

