

Ranskill Primary School



Parent Information Booklet for Foundation 2 Class 1



"Barney's Bunch"

WELCOME!

The purpose of this booklet is to help ensure that your child gets the best possible start in Class 1 at Ranskill Primary School.

We will outline some important information about our school day and tell you how you can help your child at school. Further information including all the school's policies are available on the school website, <http://www.ranskillprimary.co.uk/>

We aim to make your child's first day and more at school go as smoothly and happily as possible.

Who's who in school



This is Mrs Throssell, The Head Teacher.

"Welcome to Ranskill Primary School"



This is Mrs Heald, she will be your child's class teacher

"During the next year I will enjoy working alongside you and your children".

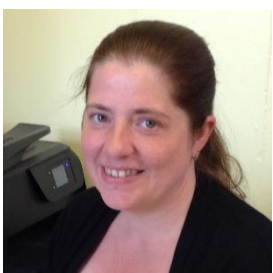


This is Mrs Sneddon. She is a qualified Higher Level Teaching Assistant with an honours degree in Education and she will teach with Mrs Heald every day.
"I love to meet all the new children every September."



This is Mrs Mear she has a degree in Education and will start her teacher training in September. She works with Class 1 and 2.

This is Mrs Walker a fully qualified experienced teacher who teaches all classes. She teaches all subjects, but has a special interest in French and music. She will teach class 1 on a Tuesday.



This is Mrs Svaile (left) and Mrs VanRooijan (right). They are the friendly faces at the school office.

"We will be happy to help you with any general information you need about school"



What will my child do in a typical day?

Class 1 is a busy, lively place but it does have very structured routines, clear expectations are placed on your child from day one. The daily routine is displayed and even everyday tasks have learning opportunities for your child. Children are admitted into the building from 8.50 am, we very politely request that you drop your child off at the classroom door as the cloakrooms are tight on space. If you wish to come into school you are very welcome at the end of the day to come and look around your child's class.

In a morning your child is expected to take responsibility for their own belongings to encourage growing independence:

- Hang up their own coat and PE kit on their own peg.
- Put their reading wallet in the appropriate tray and their book bag in the book bag boxes.
- Self-register and register for school lunch or packed lunch. (Please ensure your child knows their lunch choice for the day, either main meal, jacket potato or packed lunch from home, school menus can be found here <https://www.ranskillprimary.co.uk/school-dinners-and-cool-milk/>)
- Put their water bottle in the tray beside the sink
- Sit on the carpet with a whiteboard and pen.

Your child will need to bring a water bottle from home to school every day. This ensures that your child has access to a drink of water all day.

Learning is structured through play with content that matches the needs of young children and activities that provide opportunities for learning indoors and outdoors. Staff will observe your child's learning, sharing their successes with you and plan how to help your child reach his or her full potential. They will work in partnership with you to find solutions to any problems that might occur.



As well as talking to staff face to face the school also helps to build parent partnership by using the school DOJO app. This app is easy to download onto your phone. We use it to aid communication about what is happening in school and to add photographs to your child's portfolio. As parents you are also welcome and encouraged to contribute to your child's portfolio by adding any messages or photographs that you wish to share with school.

CLASS 1 DAILY ROUTINE

8.50 am – 9.00 am	Self-registration, morning tasks – fill water bottle.
9.00 am – 9.10 am	Welcome song, rhyme time, register.
9.10 am – 9.30 am	Phonics
9.30- 10.00 am	Planning Time – children learn and develop within our inside enabling environment with teaching and support from adults, who respond to their individual interests and needs and help them to build their learning over time
10.00 am-10.15 am	Tidy up time, snack time, circle time
10.15 am – 11.00 am	Planning time - children learn and develop within our outside enabling environments with teaching and support from adults, who respond to their individual interests and needs and help them to build their learning over time -
11.00 am – 11.30 am	Number based activity
11.30 am – 11.45 pm	Phonics
LUNCH	All children eat in the hall
1.00 pm – 1.30 pm	Register, Reading and phonics based guided learning.
1.30 pm– 3.00 pm	Planning time – Support children in the four specific areas literacy, mathematics, understanding the world, expressive arts and design while giving the children opportunities to strengthen and apply the three prime areas of communication and language, physical development and personal, social and emotional development .
3.00pm – 3.25pm	Show and tell and Story time
3.25pm – 3.30pm	Get ready for home and home time at 3.30pm collect from the hall door.

Times are only a rough guide.

The children have lots of opportunities for physical development outside but they also have a more structured PE lesson once a week in the main hall or outside. This is taught by a specialist sports coach.

The children will also have a specific teacher led music session and RE lesson.

All children in Foundation have available a piece of fruit provided for a snack through the School Fruit Initiative.

What does the Curriculum look like in Foundation?

The Early Years Foundation Stage has seven areas of learning, three prime areas, (coloured green below) and four specific areas, (coloured red below). Throughout all these areas of development there are three characteristics that underpin the learning. These are playing and exploring, active learning and creating and thinking critically. Details of our full school curriculum can be found on our website.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children's social and emotional development is really important, and underpins learning in other areas. They need to become independent, to consider the needs of others, and to gain confidence in familiar group settings.

Parents can help us by arranging for their children to mix with other children, this will help them be happy at school.



Physical Development

This is essential for health and also balance, control and an awareness of space. Children need to develop large body movements before developing the small scale movements that are needed when using different tools. Providing lots of fun opportunities to play safely with balls, tricycles and climbing frames will help develop these important skills.

Communication and Language

The use of language is at the heart of learning; expressing needs and feelings and discussing their ideas, is very important. Parents can help by providing role play opportunities and talking to their children during everyday situations. Extending your child's vocabulary is a key aspect of their development; introduce your child to new words and their meaning perhaps while walking around the supermarket.

Literacy

Reading and writing are taught following the progression document "Letters and Sounds" supported by Jolly Phonics, a structured scheme which has an enjoyable multi-sensory approach. The children will bring home sounds and words to practice. They progress through the reading scheme at their own pace. Spending time looking at books together and reading stories regularly will help develop your child's reading.

Mathematics

The children are offered lots of opportunities to use mathematical language in play, as part of daily routines and in song and rhymes. The children will complete a range of activities some of which focus on mathematical learning and others where mathematical learning will be drawn out, for example exploring shape, size and pattern during block play.

Understanding the World

Children learn best by first hand experience - this helps them to make sense of the world around them. They need the chance to explore and manipulate a range of materials such as water, dry and wet sand, dough and good old fashioned mud! Children also benefit hugely from meeting and interacting with different people, encountering and caring for other living things, using different tools and equipment and going to places of interest.

Expressive Arts and Design

This includes art, music, dance, role play and imaginative play. This will help them to express their ideas, feelings and preferences using all their senses. You can help by teaching nursery rhymes and tapping to the beat of familiar songs, by collecting junk and providing glue and string for imaginative modelling. Use paper, paints and different types of coloured pencils; these will also help with the fine motor control necessary for learning letter formation.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT RANSKILL PRIMARY SCHOOL ROUTINES AND PROCEDURES.

PLAYTIMES

The school is part of a national fruit scheme which provides fruit for the children to eat at snack time. They can also have milk, you will need to register for this service online details are in this pack.

LUNCHTIMES

When your child starts school you can decide whether they wish to have a school dinner or bring a packed lunch. There is a **hot meal provided free of charge** to all children in Class 1 and Class 2. These are very good and very popular. The children have a choice of jacket potatoes or a main meal. The children tell the class teacher their menu choices daily. Some children prefer to bring sandwiches for their lunch. We do encourage healthy eating and would ask you to support this when making your child's lunch. Please do not send your child with packets of sweets or bars of chocolate. The children are well supervised at lunch break in their own play area with a designated dinner lady.



To celebrate certain events we have special lunches. Our Pilgrim Father's Day celebration lunch is an annual event.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We have a simple school dress code, details of which are given below. Every child in school wears it, giving the pupils a sense of identity and belonging. Wearing jewellery is discouraged from a safety aspect. Any jewellery which is worn must be removed before P.E. this includes earrings which the child must remove themselves. If your child wears earrings it is helpful if they are not worn on PE days.

PLEASE ensure that all uniform and PE kit is named.

Grey trousers/skirt/pinafore/shorts/red and white gingham dress

Red jumper/sweatshirt or cardigan

Logo uniform is available from uniform direct <https://www.ranskillprimary.co.uk/school-uniform/>

Plain white button up or polo shirt with long or short sleeves

PE KIT

Plain white t-shirt and dark shorts

Plimsolls

Trainers and tracksuit trousers and top for outdoor activities will be required in the summer term.

BOOK BAGS

Your child will be provided with a book bag when they start school. Should this be lost, replacements are available to buy from Uniform Direct.

END OF THE DAY

Schools are very busy at the end of the day. We ask that parents stay in the area just outside the main hall doors and we will send the children out to you. This is so we ensure that each child is collected by an adult. If someone other than the parent/carer is collecting the child the school needs to know who this will be. If a parent is delayed, it is important that we know about any delay if possible. If you wish to speak to the teacher at the end of the day you are very welcome, but we do ask that you wait until all the children have been collected. If you require a longer conversation please make an appointment with the office.

LETTERS

The school news letter is published on DOJO on the school story and on the school website, this is an essential read as it informs you of all the upcoming events and dates for your diary. Occasionally there will be letters with reply slips, we really appreciate it if you could return these promptly. The school website also has term dates and a calendar.
<http://www.ranskillprimary.co.uk/>

LOST PROPERTY

Lost property is kept until the end of the week, if it is named it is returned to the child. Occasional accidents do happen. We do have a supply of spare clothing, should your child come home in our clothing we really do appreciate its return. Some parents like to provide their own children with spare clothes; a small named bag on their peg is the best solution.

HELPING IN SCHOOL

Parents are always welcome in the school. There are regulations we have to follow as your children's safety is paramount. If you would like to help in school please let a member of staff know or the office staff and we will be more than happy to discuss with you the many options! The PFA is always looking for new members!

Before starting school what can I practise with my child?

Communication Skills

I can talk about an event I have enjoyed.
I can tell you my name and how old I am.
I can sing a nursery rhyme.
I can talk about the events in a picture.
I can talk about what I like and don't like.
I can talk about shapes.
I enjoy talking about story books.
I can follow simple instructions.
I can recognise my own name.



Physical Skills

I can jump, hop and skip.
I can catch, throw and kick a large ball.
I can pedal a trike.
I can use pencils, chalks, pens and scissors.



Self-awareness Skills

I can put my clothes on and off, including my shoes.
I can use the toilet myself.
I can use a tissue or handkerchief.





Social Skills

I can say 'please' and 'thank you'.
I can tidy up and put my toys away.
I know what is right and wrong.

Self-Regulation

I can share my toys.
I can take turns when playing.

Reasoning Skills

I can sort objects and explain groups.
I can count objects.
I can start to recognise numbers
0-5, then 5 - 10

What activities can I do to help my child at home?

As Parents you are your child's first "teacher" and your support is vital in your child's development. Supporting your child's early schooling does not mean sitting your child down at a table to do "school work". Many everyday tasks you do provide plenty of opportunity to reinforce their learning at school.

- **Walking** - going for a walk to the park will help with your child's physical development as well as giving you lots of opportunities on the way to talk about what they can see and hear, for example house numbers, street names, car number plates.
- **Shopping** - count items as they go into the trolley and look at the size of various packages. Decide which container is bigger or smaller, taller or shorter, holds more or less. Set up a play shop at home using old packaging as stock. Write the prices. This can develop into giving opportunities for adding up and taking away if your child is ready. Play "I spy with my little eye", look at the signs in the supermarket and the packaging most children can recognise all sorts of words and letters.
- **Bath time** is great for simple shape and volume activities – I wonder which beaker holds the most water – how can we find out? Draw shapes and patterns in the bubbles
- **Cooking** is a good way to help your child to get to know simple weights and measures. Count spoonfuls of ingredients. Let your child help you set the timer and count down to teatime. Read the recipe or instructions on the packet with your child so they know that text is not always a story. Let your child make their own play dough.
- **Play games** – any game that uses a dice is good as well as simple card games and bingo.
- **Toys** - Add number apparatus to your child's toy collection – counters, a purse with some change, dice, dominoes, a tape measure, ruler, pack of cards, timer, different shapes – old boxes. A variety of books both story and information books.
- **Imaginative play**- Make up stories and rhymes together, encouraging imaginative play with such items as tea sets, dressing up clothes, cars, superheroes, just follow your child's interests.
- **Join the library** – The library in Retford is well stocked with a wide range of children's books and it's free!

A few tips for a happy start to school:

- Talk to your child about starting school, share the children's booklet and fill in the 'All about Me' book.
- Practise dressing in the school uniform and putting on school shoes – If your child has new shoes these may cause blisters so ask your child to wear them in a little before school begins

- Testing school lunch boxes – can your child open their lunch box or open packaging. Explain to your child not to swap lunches with their friends because all children like different things and some children can't eat what other children can. Ensure school is informed if your child has any food allergies.
- Going to the toilet on their own. Toilets in school can be a real worry for some children and accidents do sometimes happen. We do have spare clothes in school but if you feel this may be an issue for your child in the first few weeks, the best way to manage this with the least amount of fuss for your child is to pack a spare pair of pants, socks and change of clothes in a non transparent plastic bag.

Talking to staff, we are always available in a morning for quick messages but if you want a longer chat it is best to see us at the end of the day. We are looking forward to getting to know you and your children. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns.

Once my child has started school, how can I help?

The school works on a theme based curriculum which helps children make links with their learning. As a new theme begins you will get a message on DOJO outlining key events and learning opportunities provided by the theme. The full curriculum is also outlined on our website. It is a great idea to share these with your children at home. A few children are sometimes reluctant to talk about life in school and therefore this information can be used as a reference for asking questions or developing learning at home.

Attending parents' evening gives you the opportunity to talk to staff and look at your child's work. It enables you to find out what your child is currently working on, achieving and where they can go next.

Once your child has started school, he/she will soon be given a reading book. Talking about and reading with your child is a great way of helping your child. Giving feedback to the teacher by completing the reading diary helps build a partnership between home and school.

Finally, if you have access to the internet you may find some of the following sites useful. Please be mindful of allowing children to use any website and ensure you have the correct restrictions in place and monitor your child. The link below has lots of advice and tips on how to keep your child safe while using the internet. School also produces a weekly newsletter on internet safety that is published on dojo.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/pre-school/#early-years-resources-parents>

Useful Websites

For Children

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/eyfs/>
<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/Early-Years.html>

and for Parents

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/>
<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/parents/words.aspx>
<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Parents/ReadingTips.aspx>
<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/parents/numbers.aspx>
<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/parents/SandAndWater.aspx>