Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have all had a fabulous summer and are as excited as we are about starting this new Autumn Term. We are thrilled to see so many familiar faces returning to the team and we extend a very warm welcome to those parents and children joining us for the first time this September.

Our Early Years Foundation Stage Team is made up of 4 classes and below is an outline of the staff members attached to each class. As you may be aware the children move freely around the whole team and all staff members share their play and extend their learning opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Group and Class Name</th>
<th>Teacher/s</th>
<th>Teaching Assistant/s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reception Belfast</td>
<td>Mrs Baker</td>
<td>Mrs Tylkowski Mrs Dolan (1:1 teaching assistant)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reception London</td>
<td>Miss Dalby</td>
<td>Mrs Newbury Mrs Pegler (1:1 teaching assistant) Mrs Johnson (1:1 teaching assistant)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery 1 Cardiff 8:30am – 11:30am</td>
<td>Mrs Stutt (Mon-Wed) Miss Floooks (Wed-Fri)</td>
<td>Mrs Askins (Nursery Nurse) Mrs Foster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery 2 Edinburgh 12:20pm – 3:20pm</td>
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**Induction**

On **Thursday 15th and Friday 16th September** the children will be staying at school for lunch. On these days, they will need to be collected at 1:00pm from the front of the school. We would like to remind you that if you wish for your child to have a hot school dinner, please ensure this has been ordered through ‘Parent Pay’ by the Wednesday prior to the week ahead. All children will attend school **full-time** from **Monday 19th September (8.45am-3.15pm)**.

**Reception Collection from Monday 19th September**

When collecting your child from school, please wait outside the pencil fenced area, located around the back of the school. An alarm will sound at 3:15pm where you can then open the gates and wait outside the classroom entrance. It is important that you are easily seen by your class teacher. On wet days, please do come inside the pencil fenced area early to seek shelter from the rain!

*We ask that before and after school, children are not to play on or with ANY school equipment.*

If your child is unable to be picked up by one of the persons mentioned in the ‘All About Me’ form, please can you inform your class teacher and note the change on the class reminder board. For security purposes, we will ask the adult collecting to confirm the password supplied. If your child is not collected by **3.25pm**, a late collection will be recorded and a member of staff will contact you to ensure a collection has been arranged.

**Early Morning Routine**

On arrival to school, please encourage your child to greet their friends and ask them to say good morning to their class teacher. Encourage them to independently put away their belongings, self-register and then please settle your child to an activity, before leaving them. Please can you ensure your child brings their **book bag** and **water bottle** to school each day. We ask that all of your child’s belongings are clearly labelled, to avoid items going missing! Our
cloakroom area is very narrow and can easily get congested. We politely ask for the parents to wait in the classroom, whilst the children hang up their coats.

**Snack**

Each day the children will be provided with a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable as part of the government free fruit and vegetable scheme. If you have registered for your child to receive free cartons of milk from the company, ‘Cool Milk’, this will be given at snack time. Once your child turns 5, this service is no longer free and you will be charged if you wish for your child to continue receiving it.

We ask for a £5 voluntary contribution in the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms to go towards purchasing additional snack items and cooking ingredients. This provides the children with an opportunity to taste and cook a range of different foods. If you would like to contribute towards this, please send the first payment of £5 into school by **Monday 19th September** in a named envelope and hand to your class teacher. Please can the contribution be made in **cash only**.

**Early Years Curriculum Evening**

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to our Early Years Curriculum Evening on **Wednesday 12th October** from 6.30pm. We would like to introduce the Early Years Curriculum and talk to you about the different ways the children access it within the setting and at home. This evening has been designed for parents/carers and we hope you are able to attend. Please fill in the reply slip at the bottom of this letter to confirm your attendance. A crèche will be made available, if we receive enough interest.

**Homework**

Your child will be set homework on a weekly basis. Homework books are sent home on a **Friday** and will need to be returned the following **Wednesday**. Your child’s homework book will be sent home on **Friday 9th September** for them to decorate. Weekly homework will then commence on **Friday 16th September**. We will set an online mathematical activity, using our school subscribed websites. The children have their own individual log in details, and these will be found inside the cover of their homework book and reading record.

**Reading**

Over the first term we will be sharing a wide range of story books and we hope that you will continue to do this at home. Through our phonics teaching, your child will develop confidence in blending and segmenting words as well as building up their sound knowledge. Your child has received a school reading book and a yellow reading record. Parents are encouraged to share the book at home with their child for approximately 5-10 minutes each night. Please date and sign the yellow reading record and feel free to write a comment. It is important to share the same book with your child over 2 days, so they can create their own narrative, adapt the story, make predictions, learn the keywords and for you to ask comprehension questions when finished. Your child has either been given a word book or a picture book, depending on their readiness for reading. **Please keep your child’s reading record and reading book in their book bag and bring to school every day.** When you wish for your child’s reading book to be changed, please place it along with their reading record, in the designated tray inside the classroom. **We will ensure the book has been shared at home before changing it.** In class, children will be heard read by a member of staff once a week. This will be identified by a comment made in ‘purple’ ink or by a ‘stamp’. If you or a close family member is able to offer time to come in and hear children read please see your class teacher. Please note you will need to be DBS checked.

**Phonic/Sound Booklet**

Your child has brought home a yellow sound booklet, containing the phonic sounds they have learnt or will be learning over the coming week. As your child continues to learn sounds through our daily phonics teaching, new sounds will be added to their booklet. We hope you support your child at home to regularly practise them.

**Keywords**

Your child has also been issued with a purple keyword book, which will contain sets of words your child is required to learn. All children will start on the first set, ‘Red’. Please encourage your child to initially segment each word, saying the phonic sound for each letter, and then blend them together to read the word. Each week we will assess your child on their keywords and sounds, to identify the progress your child is making. Your child will move up a set of keywords, once they are able to read each word by sight. If your child requires a new keyword set, this will be added into their keyword book and sent home on Friday. **Please keep the sound cards and the keyword book in your child’s book bag and bring them to school every day so we can regularly update them.**
WOW ‘Pots of Gold’
We love to celebrate your child’s WOW moments captured at school and at home. To help us do this we ask you to fill in a WOW ‘Pot of Gold’ when your child has done something special, tried something new or said something that makes you go WOW! These are to be completed at home and brought into school where it will be shared with the class. These will all be displayed on our ‘rainbow board’.

P.E.
Your child will need to have a P.E bag in school by Monday 26th September. Please can P.E. kits stay in school for the entire week. If your child wears stud earrings, these will need to be either removed at home prior to a P.E day (Thursday) or medical tape can be kept in their P.E bag for your child to cover them over. The children will be responsible for the application and removal of the tape. Long hair will also need to be tied up.

French
All the children in Reception will receive a French lesson on a Thursday morning, taught by Madame Bond. This term the children will be learning to introduce themselves with their name and age, introduce close family members, name numbers from 1-10 and retell the story of Goldilocks.

Allergies
Due to the severe allergies we have in school, Oakhurst do not allow children to bring in oranges, kiwis, coconuts or nut based products.

Information and Updates
Please look at the school website www.oakhurst.swindon.sch.uk, the classroom windows and the parents’ notice board (located on the pencil fence) for further information.

Follow us on Twitter
Belfast and London are on Twitter! Please sign up and follow us for instant updates throughout the week. We will regularly be tweeting, keeping you up to date with our exciting learning experiences. Follow @BelfastClass and @London__Class (with two underscores) to avoid missing out!

Download the SCHOOP App
We are excited to announce the upcoming launch of a new platform that enables us to increase our communication with yourselves and keep you in the loop. It enables you to receive push messages to your smartphone or tablet giving you all the latest alerts, newsletters, photos and much more. Push messages do not require a telephone signal which makes it even more accessible. The platform is currently going through its launch process and we will inform you when it is up and running.

Many Thanks
Mrs Baker and Miss Dalby

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EYFS Curriculum Evening – Reply Slip

I would like to attend the EYFS Curriculum Evening on Wednesday 12th October at 6.30pm.

Crèche spaces required __________

Name of Child: _____________________
Class: ________________________

Important Dates This Term:
EYFS Curriculum Evening (Reception Parents):
Wednesday 12th October at 6:30pm
End of Term: Friday 21st October - 3:15pm finish
WOW!